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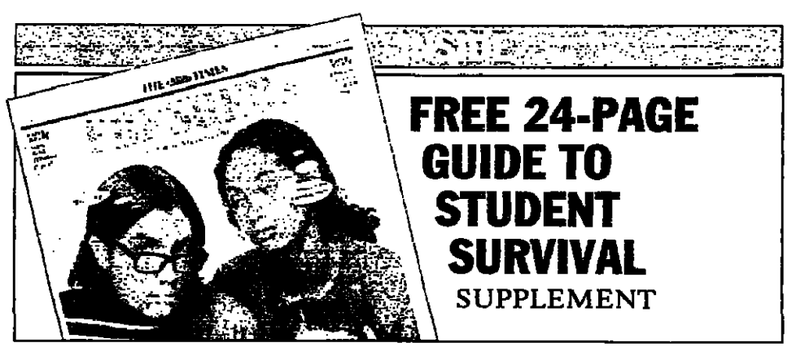
THE TIMES

No. 65,697 MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30 1996

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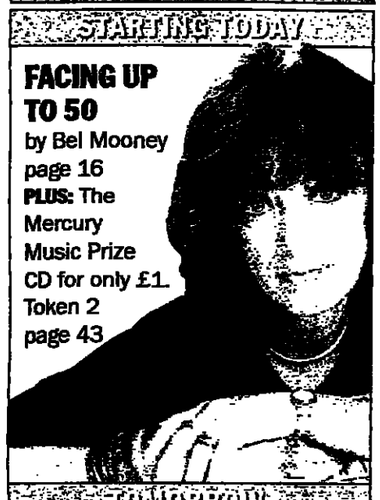


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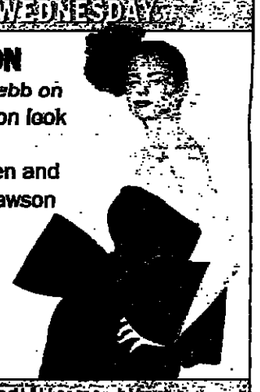
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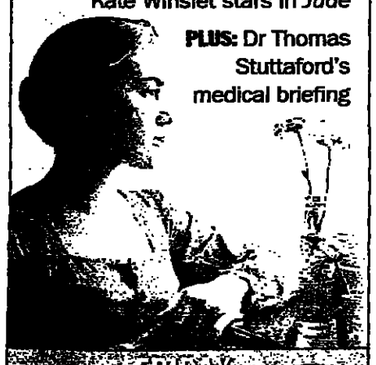
WEDNESDAY

FASHION
Iain R. Webb on the London look
PLUS: Alan Coren and Nigella Lawson



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FILMS
Kate Winslet stars in *Jude*
PLUS: Dr Thomas Stuttaford's medical briefing

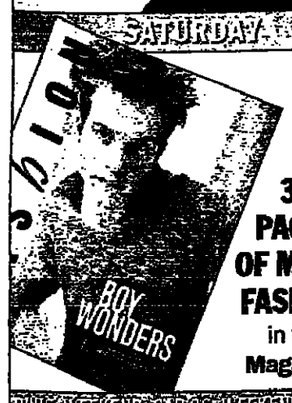


FRIDAY

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Caitlin Moran on modern music and musicians
PLUS: The Valerie Grove interview



SATURDAY



36 PAGES OF MEN'S FASHION in the Magazine

PLUS: WEEKEND CARTOGRAPHY · WEEKEND MONEY · TOTS FOR YOUNG TIMES READERS AND TELEVISION: THE 7-DAY TV AND RADIO GUIDE

Chancellor says voters would be deeply suspicious of cuts in Budget

Clarke tax gaffe is gift to Labour

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE handed Labour a big pre-conference propaganda boost yesterday by suggesting that voters would be "deeply suspicious" of any tax cuts he made in the November Budget.

In astonishingly frank remarks the Chancellor said people would remember that the Tories promised tax reductions at the last election and had been unable to deliver.

"Frothy tax cuts won't win a vote. It is not the case that my Budget requires tax cuts in order to win the election," he told GMTV's *Sunday* programme. "The public will be deeply suspicious of any tax cuts because they remember we promised tax cuts last time and unfortunately weren't about to deliver them, so they will look sideways at tax cuts from this Government.

"I completely reject the idea that the next election is entirely determined by whether or not I can lop 'X' amount off tax in November."

Even for the famously outspoken Chancellor it was a surprising intervention which provoked one critic, Bill Cash, MP for Stafford, to say that the remarks were so inept that Mr Clarke had ruled himself out as a serious politician.

Mr Clarke, interviewed in Washington, was equally controversial about the single currency, punching a hole in John Major's strategy of using Britain's place at the negotiating table as a means of trying to persuade other EU members of the dangers of pressing ahead.

Mr Clarke said: "I think it is likely the Euro-zone is going to emerge. It is set upon by most of the Continental countries who intend to go into economic and monetary union. I think six, seven, eight of them will around the turn of the century. The idea that British policy can realistically stop the others going ahead is complete nonsense."

He said that he was opposed to the idea of a United States of Europe — but he also rejected the suggestion that Britain could flourish outside the EU as part of a European free trade area. "If you just go to the single market without being in the politics, all that happens is that you accept all the rules, you are subject to the court, you are not allowed to opt out of the social chapter, you let the others make the rules."

But with Labour certain to face internal difficulties as Gordon Brown finalises his tax strategy over the coming weeks, Mr Clarke's apparent gaffe was seized upon.

Mr Brown said that Labour was promising only what it could deliver. "Kenneth Clarke has said people are deeply suspicious of the Conservatives because they broke their promises. People are suspicious because the Conservatives made promises they knew they could not keep. "It's an astonishing admission for a Government which now has no credibility on tax."

John Townend, chairman of the Tory backbench finance committee, disagreed with the Chancellor. "It is not that we did not deliver tax cuts. It is that we delivered significant tax increases. We started to put that right at the last Budget but it is important that we re-establish ourselves as a low-tax party."

Conference reports, pages 8, 9
George Brock, page 12
Peter Riddell, page 20
Leading article, Letters, page 21
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RUSSELL BOYCE / REUTERS



Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, at Blackpool's North Shore Methodist Church

Blair blows away more traces of union past

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP BASSETT

TONY BLAIR will bury his party's image as the political wing of the trade union movement tomorrow with a speech attempting to establish Labour as the party of enterprise in Britain.

In his last Labour conference speech before the General Election, Mr Blair is expected to tell both business and unions to forget the past, calling on them to form a partnership to create a fresh era of industrial relations.

Mr Blair is expected to refer to New Labour as "the political wing of the British people"; a move likely to be seen as further evidence of his desire to distance the party from the unions. However, there were growing signs yesterday that the unions would not cause serious trouble for Mr Blair this week.

Party and union leaders spent much of yesterday working on deals to avoid embarrassing defeats for the leadership later this week on pensions and workers' rights. Last night the outcome on pensions was still uncertain, with the veteran former Cabinet minister Lady Castle pressing on with her campaign to improve state pensions. She accused

Continued on page 2, col 7





Favourite TV comedian Crowther dies

LESLIE CROWTHER, the children's television favourite who changed course to become one of Britain's leading game show hosts, has died.

The comedian was an immediate hit with younger viewers when he joined the BBC series *Crackerjack* in 1960. Thirty years later he was still going strong, having played a major part in establishing the popularity of the game show as presenter of *The Price Is Right*.

Mr Crowther, 63, died of heart failure in the Royal United Hospital near his home in Bath on Saturday. His wife and five children were at the bedside. Jan Kennedy, his agent, said: "Leslie was a truly talented, lovable man. He adored his family and was friends with everyone."

In October 1992 Mr Crowther was seriously injured in an accident on the M5 but he fought his way back to health.

Obituary, page 23

Netanyahu and Arafat to join peace summit

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER

ISRAELI and Palestinian leaders are to meet in Washington early this week, possibly as early as tomorrow, in a bid to save the Middle East peace process.

President Clinton yesterday announced that Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, and Yassir Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority, had accepted his invitation to a Washington summit designed to end the bloodshed engulfing the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr Clinton said Jordan's King Hussein had also agreed to attend, but Egypt's President Mubarak had yet to reply. Amr Moussa, Egypt's Foreign Minister, said Mr Mubarak wanted clear goals and Mr Natanyahu's commitment to abide by previous agreements. Administration officials expect the summit to begin tomorrow and to last two days.

Mr Clinton's announcement came as Israel deployed more tanks and armoured vehicles within striking distance of Palestinian self-rule areas, in the West Bank and Gaza, ready to re-take Palestinian territory if the violence continued under "Operation Field of Thorns".

"This is a crisis situation," warned Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State who brokered the summit during several days of intense behind-the-scenes diplomacy. The entire peace process was "in jeopardy". The Israelis and Palestinians had "looked over that abyss of violence and really wanted to turn back".

In agreeing to attend both men compromised. Mr Netanyahu had wanted a prior end to Palestinian violence and, reportedly, a one-to-one meeting with Mr Arafat in Israel that would demonstrate his willingness to talk but avoid international pressure for concessions.

Mr Arafat had wanted a meeting in Cairo or Washington with international participation, plus the prior closing of the archaeological tunnel near a Muslim holy site whose opening by the Israeli Government last week sparked the violence. The tunnel remains open.

Mr Christopher said it was "the prestige of the United States that caused them to be willing to come here". He warned the world "shouldn't expect miracles" from the summit because the two men were "estranged" and "pretty raw". The important thing was "to get them back into direct contact".

The summit will also take place just five weeks before America's presidential election, placing Mr Clinton in an unusually delicate position. He would love to engineer a dramatic breakthrough. His advisers privately blame the renewed violence on the tunnel's reopening and Mr Netanyahu's stalling of the peace process but if Mr Clinton pressures the Israeli Prime Minister too hard he risks losing Jewish-American support.

Jews comprise three per cent of America's population but about six per cent of actual voters, and are particularly important in Florida, a normally-Republican state which Mr Clinton has high hopes of winning.

Defiant Israel, page 13

Jockey's record costs £20 million

A 25-year-old joiner was celebrating a £550,000 win after backing jockey Frank Dettori, who won an unprecedented seven victories at Saturday's Ascot race meeting. Darren Yates, of Morecambe, Lancashire, hit the jackpot with a £64 stake on a 50p Super Heinz accumulator bet on Dettori's winners. Bookmakers estimated that they had lost £20 million on Dettori's success..... Pages 32, 33

Islamic era starts in Kabul

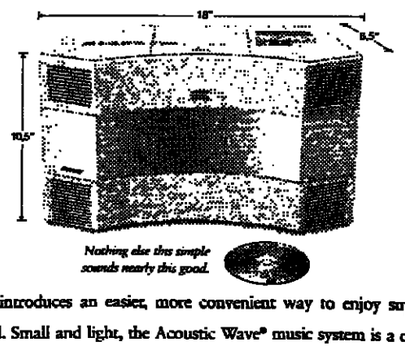
An accused thief was paraded through Kabul tied to the back of a lorry with banknotes stuffed into his ears and mouth, women were ordered into purdah and girls' schools were closed as the Taleban militia imposed Islamic law on the city ..... Pages 11, 21

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Cambridge scientist 'leaked atom bomb secrets to USSR'

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT
WHITEHALL EDITOR

INTELLIGENCE papers to be released by the Public Records Office tomorrow are likely to unravel the mysterious past of a Cambridge scientist who is alleged to have leaked secrets of the United States atom bomb to the Soviet Union.

A host of new material about the Cambridge spy ring that included Donald Maclean, the Foreign Office liaison officer at the US Atomic Energy Commission, and Kim Philby, the MI6 liaison officer to US intelligence agencies, is also anticipated.

But the role of Dr Theodore Hall, an American physicist who has lived in this country for 34 years, is particularly fascinating. Dr Hall, who lives with his wife Joan near Cambridge city centre, was named in Soviet and US documents released by the Americans earlier this year. He was identified as having passed information about the top secret US atom bomb project in Los Alamos, Mexico, to a Soviet agent. There was immediate speculation that he was the missing link in one of the most controversial Cold War espionage scandals.

The Times has established that Dr Hall will feature in the British release of 2,500 Soviet intercepts collated in Operation Venona, a joint US and UK intelligence operation which trapped Soviet atom spies.

Last night Dr Hall, in his 70s and suffering from cancer and Parkinson's disease, declined to comment about his alleged role. Mrs Hall, also American, who taught Russian and Italian at Cambridge, was unaware that new papers were to be released by the Government. She referred inquiries to their solicitor, Benedict Birnberg.

Mr Birnberg last night was surprised that the Government was releasing the Venona papers. He said: "We would prefer to wait and see what comes out before making any statement."

Dr Hall is known for his pioneering work in the field of biological X-ray microanalysis. This enabled scientists to look at X-ray data through electron microscopes and work out the presence of various elements.

But earlier this year a report in the *Washington Post* alleged that Dr Hall was one of two agents who passed secrets of the US bomb code-named Manhattan to the Russians. The report said Dr Hall was likely to have been known to Moscow as "Mlad", or youngster.

The other agent was Klaus Fuchs, a refugee from Nazi Germany, who was part of the British delegation to Los Alamos. He was convicted in Britain and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Mr Birnberg said last week that Dr Hall had already made clear he believed there were "numerous inaccuracies" in the *Washington Post* report and that he wished to make no comment about the report or about his time spent at Los Alamos.

Dr Hall is referred to by name in a Soviet intelligence document to Moscow from the KGB in New York in November 1944.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Four face terrorist charges

Four men will appear in court today charged with terrorist offences following police raids last week. The men will appear at the high-security Belmarsh Magistrates' Court in southeast London, accused of conspiring to cause an explosion likely to endanger life or cause serious damage to property. They are also charged with possession of explosives.

Scotland Yard named them as Brian McHugh, 30, unemployed; Patrick Pearse Joseph Kelly, also 30 and unemployed; James Murphy, 25, a school groundsman; and Michael Phillips, 21, a British Airways apprentice engineer. A spokesman said: "We are not disclosing the addresses of those charged for operational reasons. There will be no further details released in connection with these charges."

Bridge rescue

Firemen abseiling alongside a man rescued him as he dangled by handcuffs from the Clifton suspension bridge for half an hour. He had been manacled by PC Richard Barnston to try to thwart his suicide attempt.

Kart boy killed

A boy of seven died yesterday when his motorised kart crashed on an indoor track. His mother was thought to have been watching as the kart left the track and hit side barriers at the Kart Raceway, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire.

Battleship repair

Royal Navy divers will begin work this week on repairing the sunken battleship *HMS Royal Oak*, which has leaked oil for 57 years since it was torpedoed by a German submarine in Scapa Flow with the loss of 833 lives.

First degrees

Britain's oldest business school is poised to become the pioneer for a new generation of private colleges awarding their own degrees. Henley Management College opened in 1945, pioneering today's most popular subject.

Flood alert issued

Parts of Britain were put on flood alert yesterday. North Wales and Cumbria were worst affected after 3in of rain. Roads in the Lake District were closed and motorists were forced to abandon their cars. Forecast, page 24

NHS takes top position in private healthcare

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE NHS has become the largest provider of private healthcare in Britain. The boom in the construction of private wings attached to trust hospitals and the opening of new pay beds has put the health service at the top of the private hospital league for the first time.

In 1995 the NHS earned £225 million from private work, just ahead of the £222.3 million earned by Bupa, its nearest rival, latest figures show. Its estimated 16.5 per cent share of the total private market has grown from 11 per cent in 1988. At the present rate it could claim 20 per cent by 2000.

The figures are disclosed in The Fitzhugh Directory of Independent Healthcare 1996-97, published today. William Fitzhugh, the publisher, said: "This is a remarkable situation. A state provider becomes market leader in a commercial market in 1996."

In some quarters there was embarrassment at its achievement, he said. "The NHS has mixed feelings about its role in the private sector. Whilst it wants the revenues it does not always want to be seen to be attracting the revenues."

The expansion of private work in NHS hospitals has been at the expense of the major private groups. After ten years of growth the total number of private beds declined last year for the first time to 11,098. Occupancy rates in some hospitals are low, which may put their future at risk, Mr Fitzhugh said.

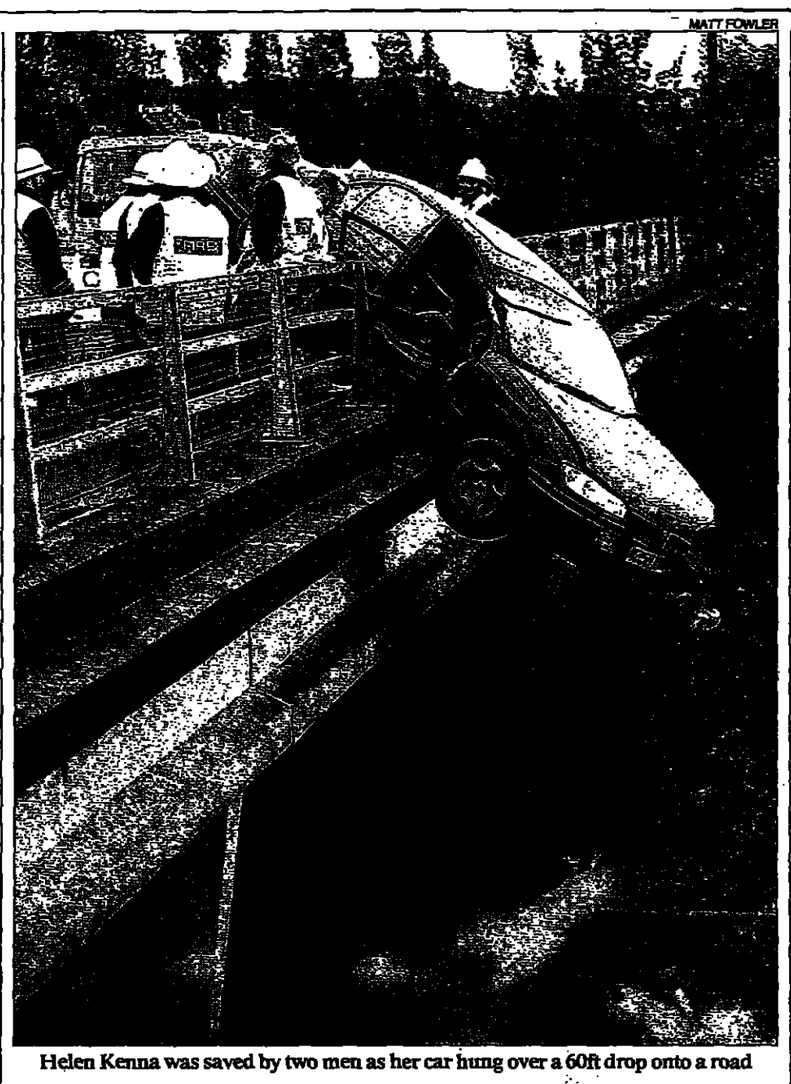
Twenty NHS trusts earned more than £2 million from their private work in 1994-95. Top earner was Guy's and St Thomas's NHS Trust with revenue of £10 million. Other high earning hospitals were the Royal Marsden, the Royal Free, Hammersmith, University College and Great Ormond Street. Nine of the top ten earners were London hospitals.

The top ranking trust outside London was the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, at ninth place with revenue of £4.4 million. In total, 52 trusts earned more than £1 million from their private work.

The NHS gained its premier postion after BMI, the French-owned group, last year's market leader, sold three of its major London hospitals to Columbia Healthcare, now the fourth largest provider behind the NHS. BUPA and BMI. Private providers have developed increasingly aggressive marketing in response to the threat from the NHS. Earlier this year, BUPA, the biggest health insurer, announced a policy which excludes patients from treatment in NHS pay beds — a move which the NHS Trust Federation claimed could cost the health service £50 million over the next four years.

Mr Fitzhugh said that as the size of the NHS's private business has grown, the potential threat from a Labour government has receded. "The forces to preserve and extend private sector activity are now too powerful to be eliminated. If a Labour Government is returned, one could expect them to discourage but not outlaw NHS private patient provision."

MATT FOWLER



Helen Kenna was saved by two men as her car hung over a 60ft drop onto a road

Crash victim seeks shy rescuers

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

A WOMAN said a special prayer in church last night after sitting for five minutes in a car hanging perilously over a 60ft drop from a bridge onto a busy dual carriageway.

As Helen Kenna prayed, her family appealed for two men who pulled her to safety from her crashed car to come forward. Her husband, George, said he hoped he could thank them personally.

Mrs Kenna, a shipping controller, 53, was unable to escape from the car, which was swaying in the wind above the A404M when one man held onto the other as he prised the car door open and plucked her to safety.

Police had responded to a number of calls from worried motorists reporting a black car dangling over the bypass at Marlow, Buckinghamshire. But by the time they arrived Mrs Kenna was free and her rescuers had left.

Mrs Kenna, who was alone in the car, was treated for shock and a bruised arm. A Thames Valley Police spokesman said: "Another few inches and the car would have gone crashing. Goodness knows what mayhem and injuries that would have caused."

Howard rebuffs prison inspector over wider role

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Office has rebuffed attempts by the Chief Inspector of Prisons to extend his remit amid renewed anger among senior jail officials at his intervention in policy matters.

Sir David Ramsbotham's suggestion that his job should cover the Prison Service rather than just the inspection of prisons has been firmly rejected by government ministers and officials.

One senior source said: "It was informally suggested that he be inspector of the whole service but it is not going to happen. The fact is he is Chief Inspector of Prisons rather than the Prison Service."

Sir David has also annoyed ministers with robust comments in two reports of inspections, in which he called for the reappointment of a Director of Young Offenders and another to look after the interests of women prisoners in England and Wales.

In his report on Aylesbury young offender institution, Sir David said that the whole of the prison estate dealing with juvenile offenders required leadership, understanding and support from ministers and Prison Service headquarters at Westminster. He said they should provide "not only resources but also the vital mandatory training needed to equip staff to deal with the special needs of adolescents".

Sir David said: "My findings at Aylesbury have only increased my conviction that there should be a Director of Young Offenders in Prison Service headquarters at the earliest possible opportunity, responsible for overseeing all issues affecting this important and impressionable group of prisoners throughout England and Wales."

His comments, at the end of a report which praised how staff were handling the young offenders, angered senior official in the service and brought another rebuke for Sir David. The Chief Inspector, who took over from Judge Stephen Tumim last year for a five-year term, was informed that some of his comments were outside his remit. "It was pointed out to him just what the remit of the job is. His job is to inspect prisons; questions about resources and new directors are for ministers and the prisons board," the Whitehall source said.

A Prison Service source pointed out that the job of the Chief Inspector of Prisons was



Ramsbotham: in first year of five-year post

to inspect and report to the Home Secretary on prison service establishments, conditions in them and the treatment of prisoners and facilities available to them.

There have been other disputes between Sir David and the Home Office. Three months ago Michael Howard tried to stop him discussing prison policy in public. Mr Howard attempted to "reign in" Sir David amid concern at the high public profile adopted by the Chief Inspector. After holding a press conference on the second day of an inspection at Doncaster prison in south Yorkshire, Sir David was told by the Secretary of State that he was expected to report to him, not the media.

Slow councils withhold thousands of grants

BY DAVID CHARTER

THOUSANDS of students are being deprived of money which is rightfully theirs by slow-paying local authorities. Payment of grants in some areas is so slow students cannot afford to buy books and some even face fines for failing to meet their financial obligations, according to the National Union of Students.

Havering Council is one of seven local authorities which only deliver three quarters or less of their grants before a university term starts, an audit commision survey showed.

Just half of the 116 local authorities in England and Wales had paid all their grants out by October 10 in 1994, the year of the survey. Douglas Trainer, NUS president said: "We are very angry that despite requests from the previous education secretary, John Patten, local authorities still consider it is all right to deprive students of what is rightfully theirs."

He added: "Many university terms start in September so thousands of students are going without their grant for weeks at a time. This is especially traumatic for first years who are having to cope with living away from home for the first time."

The audit commission said: "Late arrival of these cheques can cause students big problems, forcing them to borrow money and make temporary financial arrangements."

The second slowest authority was Knowsley, in Merseyside (59 per cent of grants paid on time) followed Cambridgeshire (64 per cent on time), Durham (66 per cent), North Tyneside and the London boroughs of Newham, and Hammersmith & Fulham (all 68 per cent). However the audit commission found the average performance had risen from 89 per cent in 1993 to 95 per cent.

☐ *The Times Freshers' Supplement is published today*

Crash Tornado recovered

SALVAGE workers recovered the wreckage of a Tornado jet from the sea off Blackpool sections yesterday.

The aircraft, which crashed on Saturday just yards from the south beach in front of thousands of day trippers, was hauled from the waves in two separate parts by cranes, but one engine remained missing. Other rescue workers picked up bits of debris, including the "black box" flight recorder, which will examined by the by Ministry of Defence and British Aerospace.

The two crewmen who ejected safely remained in hospital last night. They were praised for managing to ditch the ailing aircraft in the sea. Roy Minnear, director of Blackpool airport, said: "Had they not done that I hate to think what would have happened the whole area was packed with visitors. The fuel alone was a major public danger."



The Tornado is dragged across Blackpool beach

The plane had just made a 500ft pass over Blackpool airport after flying at low level, with its undercarriage down, over the neighbouring resort of Lytham St Annes. Bill Hankin, a guesthouse owner, said: "You could see smoke coming out of the tail. The pilot was fighting- definitely fighting to keep it in the air. He must have been deliberately going out to sea to avoid crashing in a built up area. Those two aircrew deserve medals."

Blair cuts links

Continued from page 1

the leadership of "trying to put the frighteners" on delegates with its demands for public spending restraint.

But the likelihood of a serious reverse on union rights appeared to have disappeared after a motion acceptable to both unions and party leaders was agreed.

Although Mr Blair's team is increasingly confident of a good conference week, there are obvious tensions over the line to take on taxation.

While Gordon Brown has told leadership colleagues that he is considering a 50p top rate of tax, levied on earnings of more than £100,000 as *The Times* disclosed last week, Mr Blair appears still to favour leaving the 40p top rate unchanged. In an interview in *The Observer* yesterday he indicated that he would like to go into an election without promising any increase in tax. He said: "When people accuse me of being too cautious, what they really mean is 'you are not saying their taxes are going to go up'. Well no, I am not saying that. It's absolutely true I am not saying that."

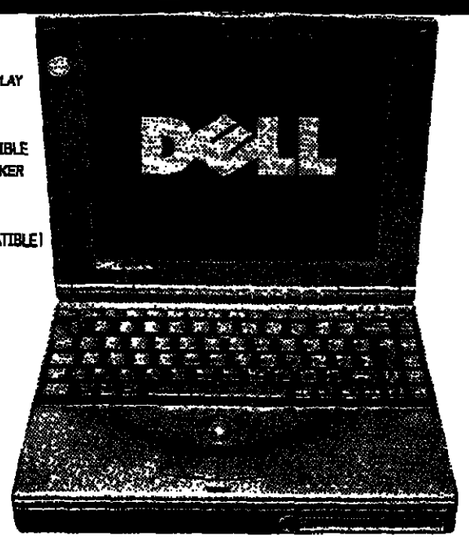
However, others in the Shadow Cabinet, notably Robin Cook, would like to be far more radical than Mr Brown, bringing in a top rate at a much lower level.

Mr Brown is thought to believe that it would be more credible for Labour to go into the election with a 50p rate for the highest earners, than to pledge no tax cuts. Yesterday, he hinted on BBC television that he favoured some change.

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Premiere for forgotten scenes from an epic life in politics

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

AN EPIC film tracing the life of the former prime minister, Lloyd George, presumed lost for decades, is to receive its London premiere next month, nearly 80 years later than scheduled.

The Story of David Lloyd George, a three-hour silent movie, was filmed in 1918 but mysteriously disappeared months later before it was cut and completed, amid accusations of government interference, libel and blackmail.

A collection of reels, believed to be the only surviving copy of the film, was discovered stuffed in a lead-lined casket in the barn of the statesman's youngest grandson Viscount Tenby. It was only a chance telephone call that rescued the film from oblivion.

"I had been invited to attend a screening of an amateur-made Lloyd George film at the Welsh Institute of Television and Film archive," Lord Tenby said. "I telephoned to say I couldn't go but mentioned it was a shame as I would have liked to compare the film with *my* version. There was a pause at the end of the phone and the girl tentatively asked me if I had any more films. I told her I'd got a barnful."

Days later, John Reed, preservation officer at the Institute, arrived at Lord Tenby's home with a van equipped with special freezers to carry away the tins of potentially explosive films, made of nitrate cellulose. "As we were clearing them out, there was a leaden chest among the spools," Lord Tenby said. "It was obviously something set apart and was packed with spools."

After beginning the painstaking process of transferring the film on to modern material, Mr Reed said there was a moment of great excitement when technicians realised what they had stumbled upon. "We all assumed it would be newsreel but then we realised it was some sort of costume drama. Gradually, we recognised it as the long lost Lloyd George film."

The film, packed with scenes of suffragette clashes, trench warfare and election euphoria, traces the career of the Welsh statesman from his humble birth in a cottage to the cabinet rooms.

It was directed by the celebrated Maurice Elvey, and stars Alma Reville, who later became Alfred Hitchcock's wife, as Lloyd George's daughter Megan, with the famous West End actor Norman Page in the title role.

Lord Tenby is also convinced that his grandfather makes a cameo appearance in the final frames of the film in a victory parade scene.

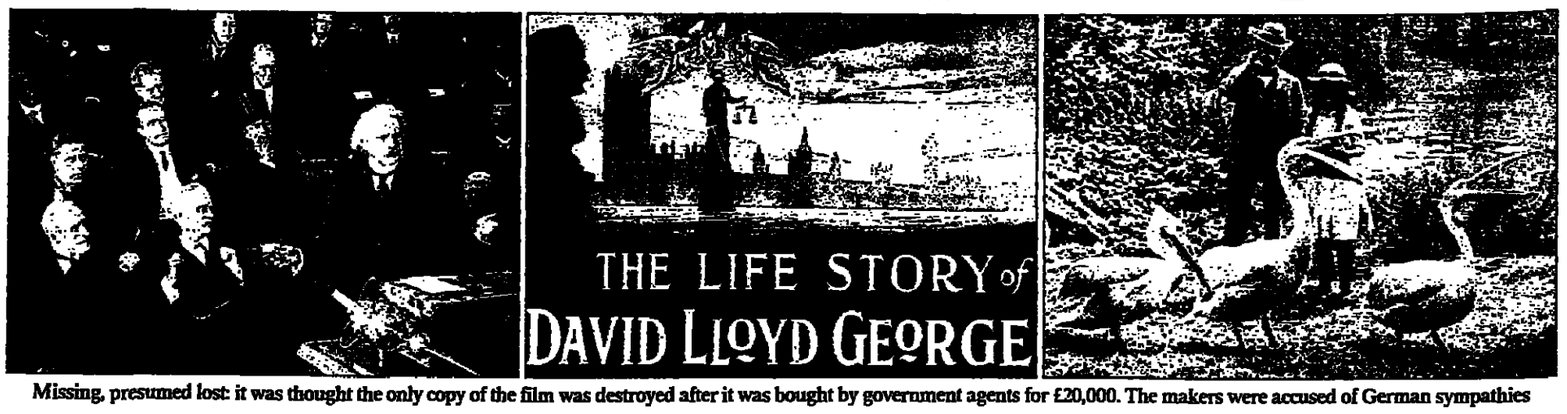
The mystery surrounding the disappearence of the film, a sympathetic but uncontroversial portrait of the charismatic leader, has never been resolved. It was withdrawn by its film company, *Ideal* of Wardour Street, after a magazine article accused its directors of being German sympathisers. *Ideal* successfully sued for libel but in a recently discovered memoir Harry Rowson, one of the directors, said the film still had to be withdrawn.

He claimed solicitors from government offices had arrived at his home, given him £20,000 in notes and taken away the only copy of the film. Historians and film buffs alike have for years assumed it had been destroyed.

Now, after one screening in Cardiff, its long-aborted premiere in the capital is to be realised. It will be shown at the National Film Theatre on November 1 as part of a celebration of film archivists' work. "Nothing prepared us for the impact of the film on the big screen," Lord Tenby said.



Lloyd George pictured in 1933



Missing, presumed lost: it was thought the only copy of the film was destroyed after it was bought by government agents for £20,000. The makers were accused of German sympathies

Woman forgives husband for £60 flutter that paid off

BY TIM JONES

ANNALY YATES was furious. Her husband, Darren, 30, had been down the bookie's again with money the family could not really afford.

By Saturday night, however, Mrs Yates was prepared to forgive him his £64 flutter — partly because she doesn't really object to him having a bet, but mainly because of the £500,000 he had picked up against huge odds. Mr Yates had backed jockey Frank Dettori to win all seven races at Ascot with a 50p Heinz accumulator.

The joiner, of Morecambe Lancashire, who has a two-year-old daughter Nathalie, travelled to London to meet Dettori and said: "*He is my hero. I could have kissed the ground he was galloping on.*" He plans now to buy his own racehorse and ask Dettori to ride it for him.

His wife said: "I don't mind him betting, but I wasn't so keen on him putting on the bet yesterday morning because £60 is a lot of money for us."

Dettori's feat of becoming the first jockey to ride all seven winners at one meeting on Saturday cheered punters across the country and plunged bookmakers into gloom. It was their worst day in the history of the sport. Scores of one shop bookies are expected to go out of business.

William Hill alone paid out more than £1.2m to five gamblers and said they had lost count of pay outs totalling more than £100. A Ladbrokes customer also made £500,000 after making a £5 each way accumulator bet.

A very bad Grand National is regarded by the industry as losses of £2 million. Saturday was on a different scale. Rob Hartnett of Coral said: "You cannot put it in context because there is no context."

Graham Sharp of William Hill said: "It is our equivalent of the American stock market crash. Quite simply, we spent the day just throwing money at people who came to us.

"The fifth win was expensive, the sixth dismal and after the seventh it was time to put the lights out." Ladbrokes paid out almost £500,000 in Ireland and Paddy Power bookmakers also reported that one man won £132,000 at a Dublin branch.

Once Dettori had won Saturday's fourth race, the bookies, large and small knew disaster was in the air and tried, too late, to offload bets to others — who knew the same.

He went into the record books with wins on *Wall Street* (2-1 favourite), *Diffident* (12-1), *Mark of Esteem* (100-30), *Decorated Hero* (7-1), *Fatefully* (7-4 favourite), *Lochangel* (5-4 joint favourite) and *Fujiyama Crest* (2-1 favourite).

Yesterday, Dettori, whose father was an Italian champion jockey, was basking in the glory and said he had received more congratulatory messages than had Bill Clinton did on becoming president.

Mr Yates, meanwhile, went down to his local William Hill's yesterday to pick up his cheque and place the same bet on Dettori. Mrs Yates said the telephone had not stopped ringing as friends and family called to congratulate them.

Punters at his local betting shop cheered and shook his hand as he backed Dettori to repeat his sweep of the board. But the bookmakers were able to return the revolvers and bottles of whisky were returned to the drawers after the champion jockey failed to emulate his historic feat and managed to win only the last race.

Mr Sharp of William Hill said: "If he had repeated his success today there would have been a line of bookmakers queuing to jump off the stand at Ascot."



Darren Yates, who won £500,000 on his bet

Race Card, Page 32
Beyond boundaries, Page 33

LULZIM LIKA



Marie-Claire Harrison told judges she feared for the rain forests, but liked water sports and horse riding

Clitheroe queen pockets Tirana brass

BY RICHARD OWEN

ALBANIA is not best known for its beauty contests but a British model was crowned Miss Europe 96 yesterday against the unlikely backdrop of Tirana's Stalinist-era Palace of Congresses.

In the process, Marie-Claire Harrison, 23, from Clitheroe, Lancashire, may have done more for Albania's image than five years of efforts by the post-Communist regime to put the country's backwardness and isolation behind it. The trappings of western life were banned by the Enver Hoxha regime, one of the most paranoid Communist dictatorships in history.

But the current Miss England may have heralded the more glamorous future the new regime hopes to bring to Albanians. Miss Harrison, who won by impressing the judges in evening dress as well as swimwear, offered a glimpse of a world in which horse riding, dancing, water sports and fencing are normal amusements for a 23-year-old. She told them her ideal man was Sting, not only because she found him attractive but also because he had "a strong character and has done a lot for the Amazon rain forests", a concern she shared.

Miss Harrison won $20,000 (£13,300) in prize money and a traditional folk costume from Tirana city council, was given her crown by last year's winner, Monica Zidkova of the Czech Republic. The contest, the 49th Miss Europe Competition, was broadcast to 200 million European viewers.

The other contestants, who like Miss Harrison had stayed in Albania for two weeks before yesterday's contest, said the sheer beauty of the countryside and coastline had won them over despite primitive conditions and communications problems.

"I think I'll come here for my holidays next year," joked Tracy Kemble of the United States, the compere.

Bye-law aims to break up walkies in packs

BY A STAFF REPORTER

PROFESSIONAL dog walkers who exercise dozens of pets at a time on one of London's largest open spaces are being brought to heel.

Britain's first bye-law to control them comes into effect on Wimbledon Common tomorrow after complaints from people who have been intimidated by walkers exercising as many as 30 dogs at a time. The bye-law is being introduced by the Wimbledon Common Conservators after approval by the Environment Department.

Owners who cannot spare time to exercise their dogs turn increasingly to companies charging about £6 a day to collect pets and take them for walks. Some walkers operating individually charge as much as £7 per dog per hour.

Jim Reader, head ranger for the 1,100 acres of Wimbledon Common, says: "It is very intimidating to see a pack of dogs running loose."

The new bye-law restricts people to exercising a maximum of four dogs at a time. Those who continue to exercise more after a ranger's warning face a £25 fine. Mr Reader, who walks his own Irish setter and golden retriever on the common, says: "A Yorkshire terrier has been killed by a rottweiler being exercised by a professional walker. Not only are these packs of dogs frightening but they also leave a lot of mess."

The conservators' stand is backed by the National Canine Defence League. Its chief executive, Clarissa Baldwin, says: "We believe it is not responsible or safe to walk more than four dogs in a public place at any one time. It would be almost impossible to control them in an emergency such as a dogfight or accident."

The league says dog walkers should either have a governing body to set standards or be licensed by the local authority. But professional dog trainer and walker Mark Thompson, who runs The Dog House in Wandsworth, says the new bye-law would force walkers on to other open spaces, and would penalise responsible handlers. He and his two helpers each exercise 10 animals at a time on Wimbledon Common and other commons and dogs were put through an obedience training course before being let off the lead.

Shake a leg or risk a break, fans told

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

THE perils of being an armchair football supporter have been highlighted by doctors after two fans suffered serious injuries while watching England play Germany in the Euro 96 semi-final.

The women supporters were injured after watching Alan Shearer, the England striker, score the opening goal. They leapt out of their seats to celebrate by jumping up and down in front of their television sets — and broke their legs.

Experts said their injuries were worse than would be expected among the players in the match. One woman, 36, fractured her heel while the second, 54, cracked the top of her shin bone, requiring an operation to insert two screws and a bone graft. Dr Peter Hallam, who treated the women at Barnet General Hospital, said he was astonished at the severity of the injuries. "It is the kind of thing you normally see in someone who has jumped off a bridge in a suicide attempt." A third patient who had broken a leg in the excitement after Shearer's goal had arrived at the hospital's casualty department but had been treated elsewhere.

Watching football, especially at stadiums and in pubs, was "quite dangerous" he said. "I have seen people who have passed out with excitement. I have not seen heart attacks but they certainly occur. I can only suggest that if people are watching football on television that they should wear adequate training shoes. They are more absorbent if they jump up and down." Writing in the *British Medical Journal*, he suggests that armchair supporters should take the same precautions as the players. "Perhaps this sort of injury might be prevented by a pre-match warm up and the correct footwear," he says.

Lynda Daley, chairwoman of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sports Medicine, said: "I am absolutely amazed. These are the sort of injuries you see after a road accident. I can't imagine what they were doing."

Dr Robert Byrne of the British Associaition of Sports Medicine said that heart attacks and strokes were the biggest risks among supporters. But he dismissed the warm-up idea. "We can't get the athletes to do it so I don't think there is much hope with Joe Public."

Cats not man's best friend

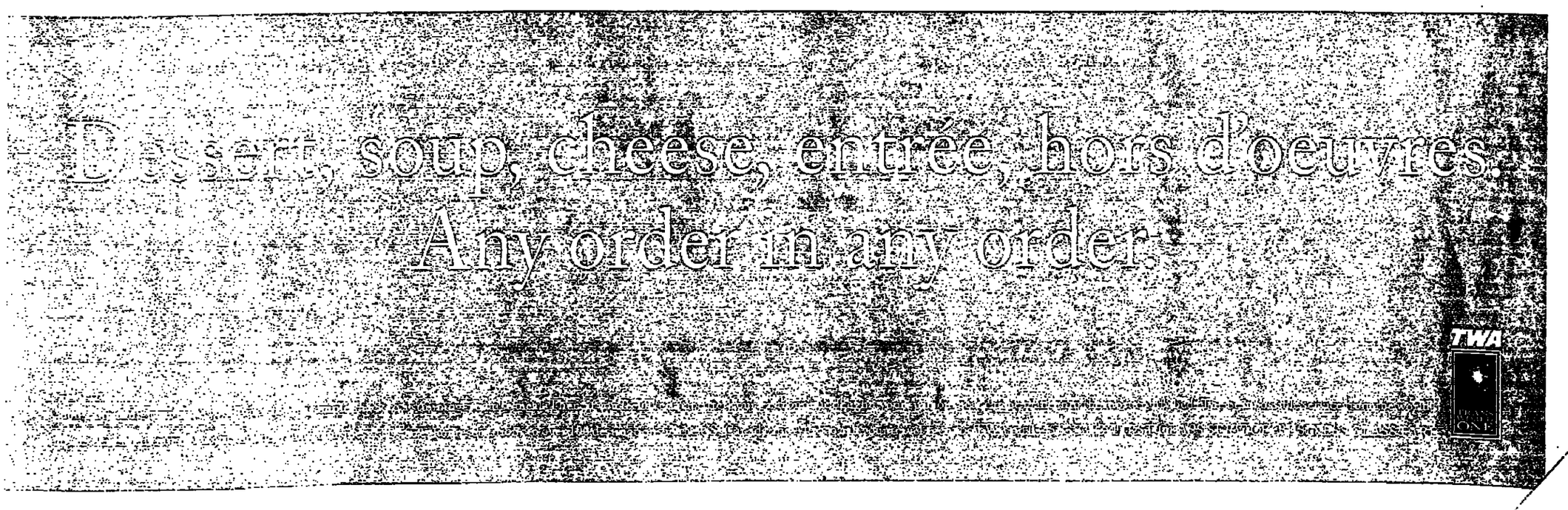
BY RUSSELL JENKINS

MEN have a secret relationship with their cats that they are ashamed to talk about, an academic survey has concluded. Contrary to popular belief they do turn to their pets for emotional support when the going gets tough but they just don't like to admit it. They think of their cats as playmates, not confidantes.

Dr John Bradshaw, director of the Anthrozoology Institute at Southampton University, discovered that there is a fundamental difference in the way men and women react to their cats. He interviewed 77 women cat-owners and 42 men owners — aged between 18 and 84 — and asked them to describe their relationship with the animal. The results from women are much as the academics expected. They used words like companionship, affectionate and reassuring: "What one would expect," said Dr Bradshaw.

Men were less enthusiastic about opening up about their emotional pet life. They were even more reticient about about talking about those times when their cat has been "there for them". "When we looked at the men, they were less likely to turn to cats but, nonetheless, the ones who did needed to describe cats in a different dimension," said Dr Bradshaw, co-presenter of television's *Cat Crazy* programme. "The words they used were playful, excitable, attention-seeking. They were grouped together as if they enjoyed slightly boisterous interaction, rather than a close quiet chat. The relationship was bordering on child-like."

Dr Bradshaw believes that men are looking to cats to fill the gap traditionally occupied by dogs. Their relationship with the family cat is a substitute for the dog they are not allowed to have.



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Spitfire ace's widow fights refusal of war pension

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE widow of a decorated Spitfire pilot who died of cancer 20 years after serving on Christmas Island during Britain's atomic bomb tests has been refused both a war pension and her husband's RAF pension.

June Charney, widow of Group Captain Kenneth Charney, who was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Bar in the Second World War, has been fighting unsuccessfully for a war pension for six years. Group Captain Charney, who died aged 62 after 30 years in the RAF, displayed all the symptoms of cancer, including excessive weight loss.

He spent four years on Christmas Island between 1958 and 1962 and, like other British servicemen, "merely covered his eyes with his hands" when witnessing the nuclear explosions. He was sent there as commanding officer.

Mrs Charney said: "He told me that he would come out to watch the mushroom clouds and that he could see through to the bones of his fingers as he covered his eyes, like an X-ray." She is convinced that he developed his cancer from that time.

However, when he died weighing only 5st after many years of illness, a doctor in Andorra, where he had retired, wrote on his death certificate that he had died of alcoholism and heart failure. That was enough for Mrs Charney to lose her application for a war widow's pension at a tribunal hearing in 1994.

Now, with the help of a retired consultant pathologist who is convinced that the former Spitfire pilot died of cancer, Mrs Charney, 66, is to have her case reviewed by a war pensions appeals tribunal. Yesterday Mrs Charney, who lives in Eastbourne, East Sussex, said: "I'm very proud of what Ken did for his country and it seems so unfair that I have to fight for a war widow's pension. A proper pension would make all the difference to my life."

Under a rule bitterly opposed by retired service chiefs and the Officers' Pension Society, Mrs Charney has also been barred from receiving her husband's service pension because she married him in 1978, eight years after he retired from the RAF.

Richard Goodbody, a consultant pathologist for 33 years and still working in retirement, said death certificates were often incorrect or incomplete. He said it was clear from the evidence that Group Captain Charney had died from cancer.

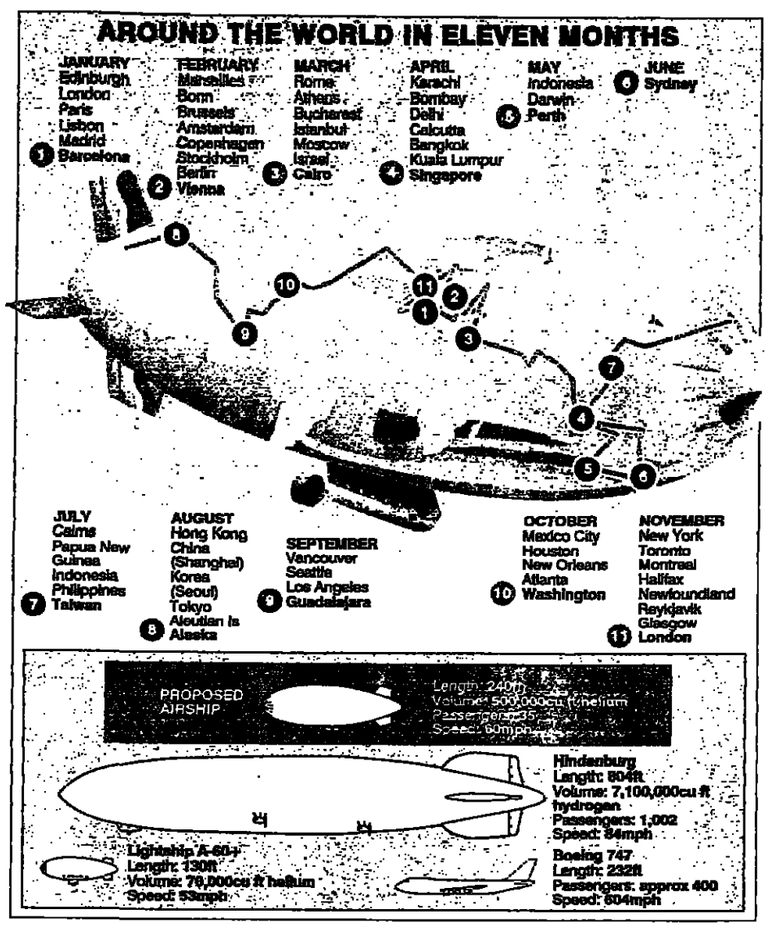
Dr Goodbody ridiculed the suggestion that the wartime pilot had died from alcoholism. There was no evidence for this in his medical records. He said it was apparently common for doctors in Andorra to give alcoholism as a cause of death without any tests being carried out.

Mrs Charney said her husband had refused to see a doctor although he suspected he had cancer. "He was scared stiff of doctors," she said.

Group Captain Charney won the Distinguished Flying Cross after shooting down a number of German fighter aircraft. In July 1944 he was awarded a Bar to the DFC when he spotted the retreating German army gathered in the Falaise pocket in Normandy, while flying overhead in his Spitfire with 602 Squadron. He passed on the crucial intelligence.



June Charney says her husband Kenneth developed cancer from exposure to atomic bomb tests



Luxury airship to set sail for the new millennium

BY OLIVER AUGUST

A BRITISH balloonist is building the biggest airship since the *Hindenburg* and is planning a year-long trip around the world. Mike Kendrick, 50, the organiser of Richard Branson's balloon adventures, will take up to 35 people with him and stop over at the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

Passengers are to enjoy a luxurious flight with "a bird's eye view of the world's most spectacular vistas". They will also be the first people in aviation history to make such a journey.

The airship *Millennia* will be capable of flying 3,000 miles non-stop at 60 mph. Its length of 248 feet will make it the world's biggest existing airship. It is being commissioned by The Lightship Group, a joint venture partnership between Virgin and American Blimp, the US airship manufacturer.

Mr Kendrick, managing director of TLG, said: "We will see places not accessible over land. I am very excited at the prospect of floating quietly above a watering hole in the desert and watching the game." The gondola, which will have large panoramic windows, will allow a comfortable lifestyle. Samples of the cuisine of the region being flown over will be served and passengers can use an observation deck.



Kendrick: to take up to 35 passengers

The airship is scheduled to take off from Edinburgh Castle on New Year's Eve 1999. It will fly over Europe, the Middle East and Asia at around 5,000 feet before crossing the Indian Ocean to the Sydney Olympics in Australia. Passengers will be able to watch the games from above. The next stop is the Great Wall of China. From there the airship will cross America on its return to London.

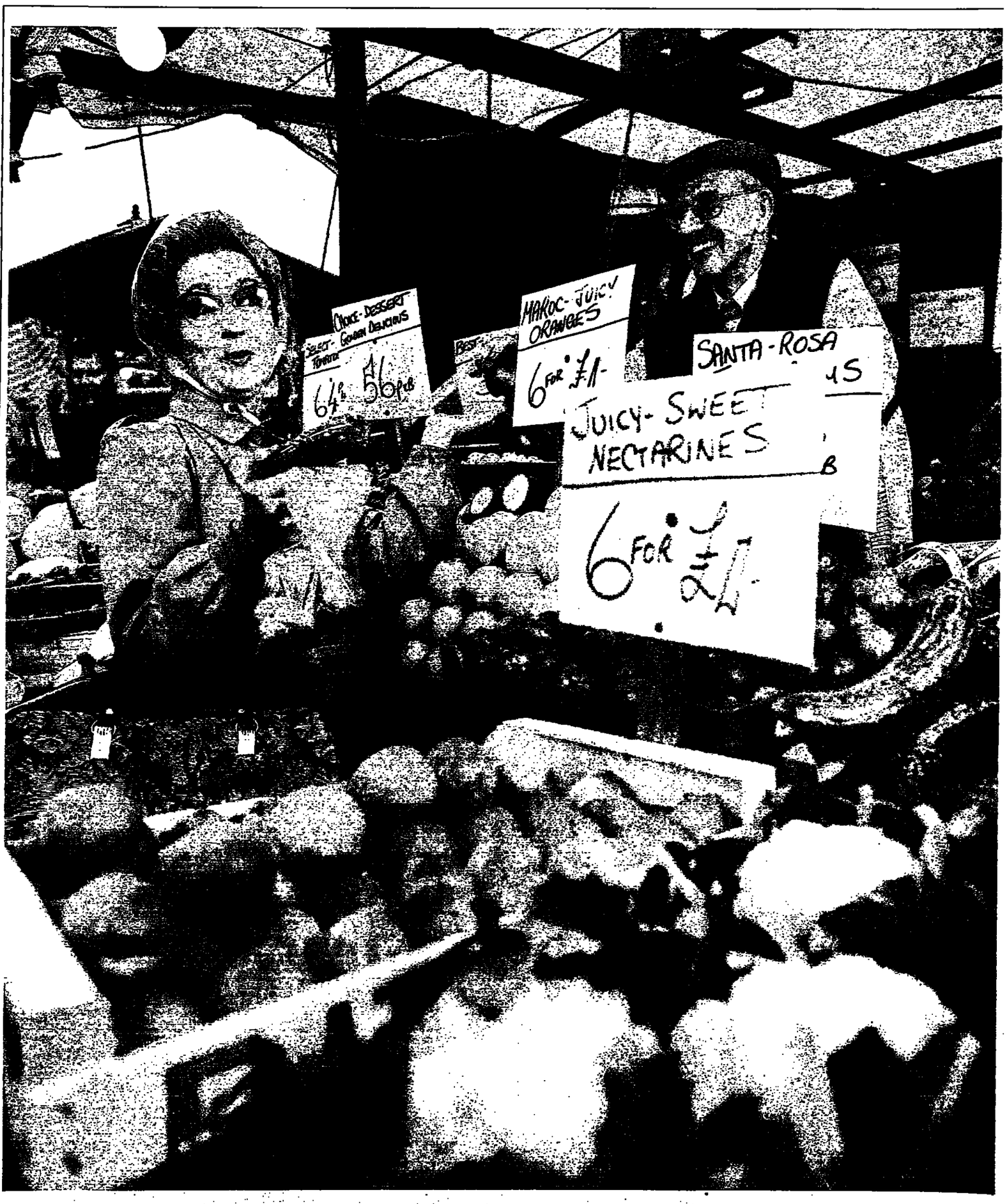
Mr Kendrick is the managing director of Mr Branson's Virgin balloon and airship company, and was the project director on Mr Branson's balloon trips across the Atlantic and the Pacific.

However, he does not yet have a definitive passenger list. "We are hoping to have quite a few children on the trip, in connection with a charity. We will also be picking up locals from every country where we stop over."

Mr Branson is expected to join Mr Kendrick on the first leg of the trip from Edinburgh to London. Pilots for the *Millennia* are being recruited and trained at the project's headquarters in Telford, Shropshire.

The gondola is made of high-strength fibreglass and the triple-laminated envelope is bullet-proof. About 500,000 cubic feet of helium, a non-flammable gas, will keep the airship afloat.

In 1937 the world's biggest airship, the German-built *Hindenburg*, exploded as it tried to moor in New Jersey after a flight across the Atlantic, killing 35 passengers.



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MEDICAL BRIEFING

Short temper may bring longer life

The case for prescribing hormone replacement therapy for women as one of the means of reducing the incidence of, and the death rate from, fractured bones that have been weakened by osteoporosis is generally accepted. In women who have not had a hysterectomy, however, the oestrogen that protects the bones can cause malignant change in the uterine lining.

This increased likelihood of womb cancer is overcome by prescribing a progestogen preparation to be taken with the oestrogen for part of the cycle. The progestogen removes the increased risk of endometrial cancer. Unfortunately, it can cause premenstrual-type syndrome in some patients, a frequent reason for abandoning HRT. In nearly a third of the women who take HRT the progestogen results in tension, irritability and occasional tears or, at worst, causes physical aggression and the possibility of rages for a few days each month.

It is also accepted that the type of oestrogen used in HRT reduces the likelihood that a woman will suffer a heart attack by 30 to 50 per cent, and the risk of a stroke by half. For a variety of reasons, women who take oestrogen can expect to live an additional two or three years on average. Patients may also find their last years more rewarding because HRT reduces, or postpones, the advent of some forms of senile dementia.

A question that has been worrying doctors is whether the progestogen added to HRT to reduce the risk of uterine cancer may also remove the advantages that the oestrogen provides to the cardiovascular system with the reduction in the numbers of strokes, heart attacks and dementia.

The magazine *Doctor* recently reviewed a study of 60,000 whose HRT included progestogen as well as oestrogen. It might have been expected that the progestogen would have upset the balance between the "good" and "bad" types of cholesterol in the blood. The pernicious low-density lipoprotein cholesterol might have been increased and the cardio-protective high-density lipoprotein cholesterol might have been reduced. There is encouraging news in *Doctor* for the result of this mammoth survey suggests that the cholesterol balance is unchanged in women who take progestogen and that the combined oestrogen/progestogen HRT regime does not remove the cardiovascular protection.

It seems that women taking progestogen will live longer but if they are to retain their peace of mind and family harmony it may be as well for them to try different types of progestogen until they have found a preparation that does not tempt them to throw the plates at their partners for a few days in each cycle.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Villagers oppose Hindu sect's plan for child centre

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

VILLAGERS have greeted with "fear and apprehension" plans by a Hindu sect to set up a centre for children in a remote part of western Ireland.

The sect, Ananda Marga, was linked in the 1970s with murder, terrorism and self-immolation. Local people in Whitegate, Co Clare, are concerned that the Indian group has chosen their village as the site for a large centre accommodating 200 people.

Founded in Bihar in 1955 by a former railway clerk later accused of murder, Ananda Marga has bought 37 acres of land in the Slieve Aughty mountains, about five miles from Whitegate. It has applied to Clare County Council for permission to build a conference centre for 200 people, a restaurant for 100 people, dormatories for 50 people and staff facilities.

It would be the organisation's biggest centre in the British Isles and would be used by children from both sides of the Irish Sea.

Paddy Buglar, a local Fine Gael county councillor, said people were worried because they knew nothing about Ananda Marga's background or intentions. The sect left no address on its planning application, which was lodged under the name of Sunrise Education Trust. The trust is the education branch of Ananda Marga and runs schools for children in Stoke Newington, north London, and Birmigham.

"The feeling of the people here is total apprehension and fear. We are mainly Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland in this area and people are afraid that young people who are impressionable might be persuaded to adopt all these different ideas," Mr Buglar said.

The beauty of east Clare has long been popular with New Age groups and individuals seeking an alternative lifestyle.

Ananda Marga, which is new to the area, wants to build the centre in a rugged area on the Clare-Galway border overlooking Lough Derg, an ancient place of pilgrimage for Catholics.



Buglar: worried about influence on the young

Ian Haworth, director of the Cult Information Centre in London, claimed the villagers were right to be concerned. He described the sect as "a very dangerous group".

Ananda Marga, or "path to bliss", came to international attention in the 1970s when Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar, its leader and founder, was jailed in India on allegations that he conspired to murder former members.

Known to his followers as Shrii Shrii Anadamurti — which roughly translates as "one upon seeing him falls into bliss" — he was jailed for seven years but never found guilty. His followers burnt themselves to death and hijacked planes in protest.

Didi Ananda Kaomudi, the director of teaching at the Sunrise Education Trust and organiser of the proposed centre in Clare, said the organisation had changed completely since the 1970s. She said the imprisonment of their spiritual leader was the underhand work of Indira Gandhi, who banned Ananda Marga during the Indian national emergency. She described the hijackings as "harmless" because the sect members were unarmed.

The movement has 2,000 instructors but membership details are secret.

BARRY GREENWOOD



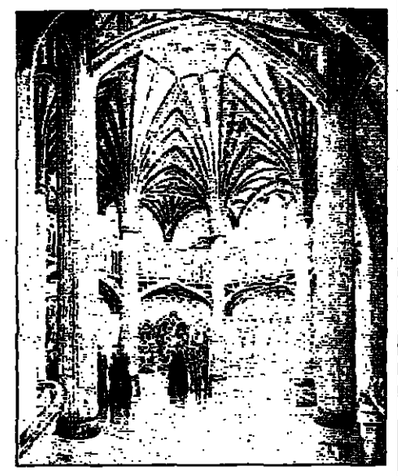
Andy Till working on part of a screen for the antechamber. Below, an artist's impression of the finished room

Windsor's ruined halls await new heart of oak

THE first of eight massive oak columns will this week be lowered through the roof of Windsor Castle, devastated by fire almost four years ago.

The initial attempt to manoeuvre the 52-foot high columns into a "new" octagonal chamber designed by the architect Giles Downes was abandoned last week when high winds made it unsafe. The columns, each a hollow cluster of 25 oak ribs, are the first pieces of an intricate jigsaw that will eventually form a new antechamber to Windsor's St George's Hall. The chamber, created entirely of English oak from trees about 150 years old, will form part of the £40 million restoration programme, expected to be complete by March 1998. Each of the eight sections of the antechamber, including the first-floor balcony and the central lantern, will be constructed in the workshops of Henry Venables of Stafford by the 150-year-old firm's carpenters, then dismantled and transported to the castle for reassembly.

Chuck Venables, the managing director, said: "English oak helped to make this country what it is. This is the most complex piece of work we have ever done. We're creating something that will last hundreds of years."



Parents 'use fraud to secure school places'

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FRAUD, blackmail and financial threats against the Church of England are on the increase as parents fight to secure school places for their children, it is claimed.

A surge in Sunday church attendance may be linked less to a religious revival than to a desire to secure a place in the local church school, which is seen by many parents as superior to most state comprehensives.

As parents blame poor education for a decline in moral and spiritual values among the nation's youth, the demand for places at church schools has taken off to the point where it far outstrips supply in some areas.

Some schools have been forced to set up a point system, under which parents must go to church regularly with their children in order to get their child into the school.

According to Channel 4's *Witness*, to be broadcast tomorrow night, desperate parents have resorted to falsifying forms to secure a place, or even to blackmail, threatening to withdraw their financial covenant unless the church minister supports their attendance claims.

In one Church of England school, Canon Slade in Bolton, Lancashire, applications for places have doubled in seven years, forcing the number of points needed to gain a place to be increased from 13 to 31 in three years.

The school, which tops the local league for academic success, takes 240 new pupils each year and insists parents must attend church weekly for four years with their children to earn their 31 points.

The Rev Peter Shepherd, the headmaster, said the school's distinctive feature was its Christian ethos.

"Pastoral care is extremely good. Discipline is extremely good," he said, arguing that the points sytem was inevitable and that class size had to be kept down.

"It would be very, very difficult to get any more children into this class. We do not have elastic walls."

Nuns fight to keep convent dry

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A GROUP of nuns goes to court next month to prevent a developer selling alcohol at their former convent. It is the second time the Sisters of the Community of St Peter have objected to their old home at Horbury in Wakefield, west Yorkshire, being used for entertainment.

Two years ago they successfully convinced licensing justices that plans for receptions, banquets and other events in the 130-year-old building were unsuitable. Magistrates had to intervene when several nuns jeered John Kirby, the developer who bought the dilapidated convent for £440 in 1989.

The court rejected his application for a full drinks licence but Mr Kirby is not applying to open part as a banqueting suite. Mother Robina, head of the community, said: "I will be making the same objections as two years ago. Using our former convent as a restaurant and for drinking would affect our lives because we live so close."

David Hinchliffe, Labour MP for Wakefield, who backed the nuns previously, said: "I have told Mother Robina that I still support her and am prepared to go to court on her behalf. I don't think the circumstances have changed."

Two years ago the nuns told magistrates that they had sold the convent to Mr Kirby for a nominal sum and the grounds for £250,000 as a way out of mounting financial problems. They were allowed to remain in a former guest-house and Mr Kirby offered to run the site. The nuns felt Mr Kirby had taken advantage of them when they heard he was converting the top two floors into a dining suite and had applied for an alcohol licence.

Mr Kirkby said the nuns had not imposed a covenant prohibiting such uses. He said he had paid £500,000 for structural repairs and refurbishing after years of neglect and the property had a negative value of £250,000.

He said he had offered to allow church officials to mediate in the dispute. "I was appalled and aghast at the sight of them going into court last time," he said. "It seemed un-Christian.

Catholics pray for bishop

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

CATHOLICS in Argyll and the Isles prayed yesterday for "a good, holy bishop" to be sent to them to replace Roderick Wright. The prayers were said at Mass in the cathedral in Oban, the heart of the diocese, which has a Catholic population of 11,494.

Morning Mass was taken by Archbishop Keith O'Brien, a temporary replacement for the former bishop, who said that there had been "worry, hurt and anger" expressed over the former bishop. The archbishop went on to present a three-fold plan for the future.

This involved a series of pastoral visits that the Archbishop would carry out, plans for next year's 1,400th anniversary of Saint Columba bringing Christianity from Iona to mainland Scotland, and plans for the millennium.

He said: "We will remember all of you during our day of prayer together, as we also pray that the Holy Spirit may send us a good, holy bishop in the not too distant future." The archbishop said he believed God still loved Mr Wright. "Surely Jesus was speaking the truth when he said that he came to save sinners", said the archbishop, who cited the parables of the prodigal son and the lost sheep — and the woman caught in adultery whose accusers were told to stone her only if they were without sin.

Archbishop O'Brien, on his first official visit to the diocese since Mr Wright's exit, prayed for healing for all involved.

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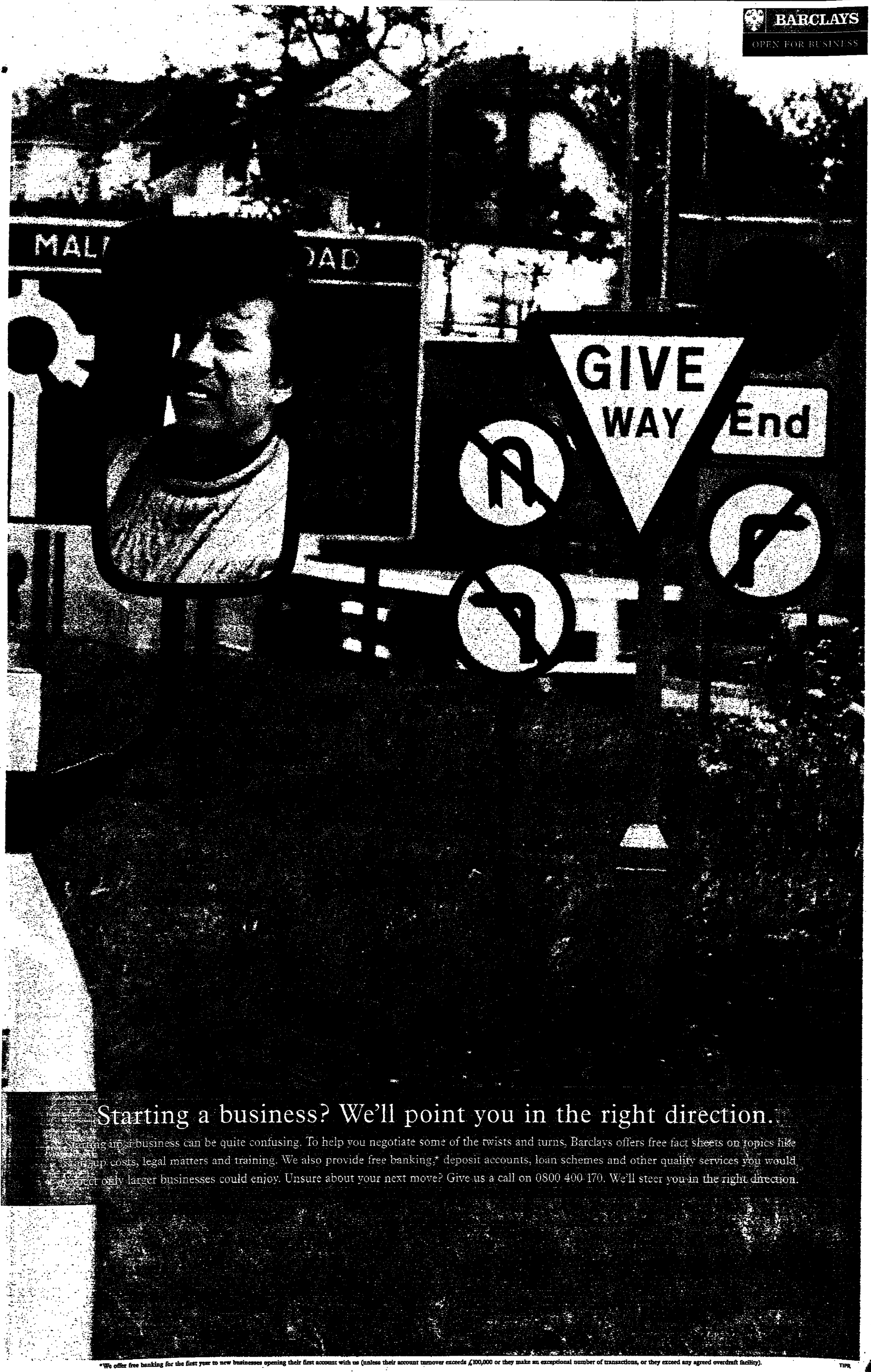
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TIPR

Duffle coats make way for designer raincoats as delegates don uniform for Blackpool

New model army marches in step with Blair's tune

BY JAMES LANDALE AND ALICE THOMSON

TONY BLAIR'S path will be smoothed this week by a new model army of delegates to the party conference, which opens today.

As they stepped off their trains at Blackpool North station, it was clear that most of them are middle class professionals. The delegates, from constituencies around the country, stood out from the daytrippers. Many were wearing smart suits beneath designer raincoats and were carrying briefcases.

They also stood out from the smattering of old Labour who still wear duffle coats, even the young members. More than eight out of ten delegates that *The Times* talked to were new Labourites drawn into the party by Tony Blair.

Labour is now in exactly the opposite situation to the one it faced in the 1970s and early 1980s when the leadership was forced to rely on the support of moderate trade union leaders to defeat radical motions from extreme constituency activists. The 750 constituency delegates have become more and more influential as the unions' power has declined.

Mr Blair will rely on these new conference-goers to keep the trade unions and old establishment figures such as Baroness Castle of Blackburn under control. The Labour leader is helped by the fact that there are an increasing number of women who are particularly loyal to him.

Also for the first time, constituency delegates will have 50 per cent of the vote at conference, up 20 percentage points from last year. The trade unions' share has been cut from 70 to 50 per cent.

Talking to the delegates as they stood waiting for taxis in the pouring rain, most were entranced by the new Labour rhetoric and see Mr Blair as the greatest hope for the future of the party. They are prepared to accept his autocratic style of leadership as long as he wins the next election.

The Labour hierarchy has left nothing to chance. It has ensured that the delegates have been on a series of training weekends during September. This conference will be the first for 80 per cent of delegates and officials want them to be well-briefed on the party's arcane rules and how to deal with the media.

More than 20 per cent of the delegates became Labour supporters after Tony Blair became leader two years ago and have few links with Labour's old traditions. Labour now has 100,000 new members and they are the keenest to come and see their leader perform at the conference.

BLACKPOOL 1996

Each constituency can send one delegate for the first 749 members, with an extra delegate for the next 250 members and so on. However, most local parties are financially constrained and cannot afford to send more than one or two delegates.

Conference delegates were traditionally male but now the rules ensure greater female representation. Every second delegate from a local party must be a woman. And if a constituency party sends one male delegate one year, it must send a female delegate the next. This year 320 delegates are men, 425 are women. Typically, they are in their forties.

Many delegates said they found the training days useful. Not only did they find the explanation of how conference works essential, but they now also appreciate how important it is for them not to harm Labour's chances of winning the next election.



Williams: said majority backed Blair's direction

Only a few expressed concern. Andy Howell, president of Labour Reform, the centre-left coalition of party activists, accused the leadership of trying to control delegates.

"They have been inviting them to training weekends, saying it [conference] is not about policy or debate, but about the public image of Labour," he said. "They are being heavily coached in how to behave. There has been some upset about this."

Many delegates appear to have been imbued with a sense of caution and even fear towards the press. After one training course, as a group of activists returned home by train, some new delegates went so far as talking in whispers just in case some journalists were in the same coach.

Yesterday several delegates said they would only speak to *The Times* after they had secured permission from their regional officer.

"There is a sense that all this central control is getting a bit silly," one delegate said.

While delegates are clearly keen not to rock the boat, many feel they should not be taken for granted by the leadership. On one of the training days, delegates were shocked when a leading Labour official referred to party supporters and activists as "the sales force".

John Williams, the delegate for Darlington, where he leads the borough council, said that the majority of delegates would back Mr Blair against the unions. "They overwhelmingly support Tony and the way the party is going."

Maureen Casey, 42, the delegate for Burnley, was a keen supporter of Mr Blair. "It is vital to get in power and Tony Blair is our last chance. Blair knows what is needed to win and we have to trust him."

Alex Silver, 19, a delegate from the University of Salford, said that he would not have joined Labour under Neil Kinnock but was a keen supporter of Mr Blair. "The reforms had to be done, however ugly they looked to old Labour."

David Milton, from Taunton, Somerset, said that Labour was going in the right direction now and that was because of Mr Blair. But he added: "There are issues I am prepared to keep silent about if it means we keep party unity."



Moira Hoffman, from Leominster, joined Labour two years ago, inspired by Tony Blair, and is now attending her first party conference

'We want to convert the whole country'

ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

NEW BLAIRITE

IMMACULATE in a tweed suit and beige overcoat with matching luggage, Moira Hoffman, arriving for her first conference, was typical of the new breed of Labour delegate.

Mrs Hoffman, 62, from Leominster, Hereford and Worcester, joined the party two years ago, inspired by Tony Blair's rhetoric. She had always tended to be on the left but had felt excluded by the party's male, "cloth cap" image and thought that Labour had made itself unelectable.

"Tony Blair is inspirational. Before Labour lacked confidence — now it looks like the party of government, mature and self-assured," she said.

Mrs Hoffmann runs a computer business and her husband is a retired teacher. "I don't mind saying I am middle class. My constituency is true blue old Tory, but we are gathering more and more recruits and from the rural areas as well.

"I know we are going to win this election and I am nervously excited. We've got seven months at most to go."

Having taken a week off work to attend the conference, she is determined to attend as many fringe events in Blackpool as possible. "I don't think there will be time for the big dipper."

She is worried that "old Labour" might try to hijack the conference. "We can't make wild promises without costing it. Old Labour must believe that we still care, and when we get into power we will put policies in place to make sure people are treated fairly and equally. They are suspicious, but this shouldn't be a class thing; we want to convert the whole of the country to our approach."

Mrs Hoffman has been on training weekends for party activists and was sent a wodge of research to read before the conference. She knows the party line on everything from fishing to car clamping. "We have four challenges before the new millennium. To make Britain better off and safer, to make politicians more accountable and to have more influence abroad. Mr Blair said that on TV and I was so impressed I took it down."

Mrs Hoffman, who hopes she will have of a chance to address the conference, and is particularly interested in rural issues, added: "Mr Blair needs two terms if we can redress the disasters of Thatcherism and the culture of me-ism."

'People want commitments — not vague promises'

BY JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

PARTY VETERAN

HUNDREDS of young new Labourites may be thronging the Winter Gardens in Blackpool, but Dorothy MacEdo is a party veteran.

The fifty-year-old delegate from Finchley and Golders Green, north London, a Labour member for 30 years, has been to the annual conference in several years. While she denies being "old Labour", she does express concern about the direction the party is taking. "I think we should see some more positive statements on what we are going to do on issues that people care about, such as pensions, the welfare state and education," she said. "At the moment it is all a bit vague. People don't trust vague promises. They would like more commitments."

Voters wanted more substance from Labour, especially on policies such as taxes, she said. "We are going to have to tell the electorate sooner rather than later," she said. The party leadership would "have to say something. Otherwise the Tories are going to make it up for them."

Pensions are the central issue for Mrs MacEdo. She backs the call by Baroness Castle of Blackburn that Labour commit itself to restoring the link between state pensions and earnings, something fiercely resisted by the party leadership. "It would be a big vote-winner."

Mrs MacEdo believes that Labour should make its policies clear to the electorate and not just rely on the popularity of the leader to garner votes. "People think Tony Blair is a nice chap but it is not enough," she said.

She said that Labour's "spin-doctors" should not, in their wish to avoid stories in the media about "party splits", be so ready to stifle internal debate. "We all want to win the election. It is just that it should be possible to have a debate on how to do that."

Conference delegates should have their say, she added. "We are all here to be loyal to the party but there is nothing wrong with debate."



Dorothy Macedo, a party member for 30 years

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Parents wooed with ten-hour nurseries

BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

ALL-DAY "nursery creches" for every child aged three and four will be pledged by Labour this week to help professional parents to keep their careers.

The party hopes its plan for combined daycare and nursery education centres, covering ten hours a day, will appeal particularly to working mothers. David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, said that the nursery education would be provided free while the cost of childcare would be means-tested. Every family using the centres would be expected to contribute something to the cost of the childcare element, even if only £5 a week.

Labour has already said that it would scrap the Government's nursery voucher scheme, due to be introduced nationally in April. Mr Blunkett will announce on Wednesday that one-stop nursery creches would be piloted by a Labour government around the country.

Mr Blunkett is also to outline plans for struggling schools to be taken over by their successful neighbours.

Technical wizards ready with new shade of red

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

FOR one brief moment, the vast set in the Winter Gardens ballroom was dominated yesterday by a crucial question flashed onto a large video screen: "What will happen if Labour win the next election?"

The question was left tantalisingly unanswered as technical wizards rehearsed for the conference, but it touched on the key issue that the imposing stage backdrop is intended to address. If the video technicians were unable to flash the answer onto the screen, more pedestrian workers managed to put it into simple clear words on the huge red and grey stage set.

"Labour's pledges," shouted the 40ft high backdrop: "smaller classes, tough on crime, shorter waiting lists, more jobs for the young and a strong economy."

The whole set, and the hundreds of crimson banners that have turned the Winter Gardens complex into an indoor Red Square, are intended to point to the future. At every turn, delegates will be bombarded with the word *New*.

"New Labour" is coupled on the hundreds of banners variously conveying other messages of novelty — "New opportunities, New Scotland, New care, New prosperity and New Wales."

In the conference hall itself, party members, nervous about the newness of it all, will be comforted by the familarity of old Labour Red — lots of it.

According to one poetic interpretation, the massive two-tone set marries the deep red of "vibrant radicalism", with the dove grey hue intended to signify a party that cares for society. To one more pragmatic member of the design team, "it looks brilliant on television". Red — or more precisely print colour Pantone 186 — covers the bottom half of the set that stretches the entire width of the hall, making it the biggest to dominate a party conference.



In contrast, the tiny platform — with room for only a dozen senior party members — may well be the smallest. Party strategists want the conference to listen to the speaker at the podium and not to be distracted by Kremlin-style ranks of aparatchiks.

The talents of the lighting teams can turn the deep red from the plain lurid to a warm fireside glow, perhaps depending on whether the conference is being addressed by a leftwing firebrand or a modern democratic socialist/-social democrat.

Either way, the audience — both inside the hall and in armchairs around the country — is supposed to be soothed by the calming grey upper half of the backdrop, into which the red base merges. "The set will give a warmth to the conference," one strategist explained, "and help bring a positive atmosphere to our final gathering before the election."

Lottery move 'stage-managed'

LABOUR has accused the Government of timing an announcement on education funds to upstage its conference.

It had been reported that the Millennium Commission would today announce backing for a £20 million plan for a University of the Highlands, linking colleges. George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, addressing Scottish delegates in Blackpool yesterday, said: "It beggars belief that an announcement being made on day one of Labour's conference is pure coincidence .. This welcome cash injection from the National Lottery deserves better than being just another stage-managed ramp for [the Scottish Secretary] Michael Forsyth."

The commission said it was independent of government. "There is no truth in the suggestion that an announcement is being made on Monday just to coincide with the Labour conference."

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Castle rejects pensions compromise

Party leadership braced for defeat over restoring link with earnings

BY JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BARONESS CASTLE of Blackburn rejected a compromise deal yesterday aimed at preventing a battle over pensions at the party conference.

Lady Castle made it clear that she has no intention of giving up her fight for a £5.5 billion package to boost state pensions. Party and union "fixers" tried to broker a deal before Wednesday's conference vote on the matter, but she refused to accept a proposal negotiated with the help of Jack Jones, former general secretary of the TGWU transport union. "I don't think that will satisfy any of the delegates," she said.

Party sources hope to secure conference backing for a statement from the National Executive Committee that was agreed yesterday morning. It proposes a new commission to look at all pensions, including occupational pensions, in the wider context of care for the elderly.

But the new commission, which will have representations from pensioners' groups, will not have a remit to reopen the debate about whether pensions should rise in line with earnings, as Lady Castle has demanded. Yesterday Mr Jones, who has been campaigning with her to boost pensions, indicated that he would accept the compromise but party sources said that Wednesday's vote was still in the balance.

Party officials concede that the leadership may still be defeated on a composite motion pressing for the link with earnings, which was dropped from Labour policy earlier this summer, to be restored. They are pressing for the two constituencies that have put forward the pension motions to avoid a vote by agreeing for the motions to be remitted.

Labour officials point out that Lady Castle's proposals, which would cost an estimated £3.5 billion in the first year of a Labour government and £5.5 billion in the first Parliament, go much further than most unions want. But many unions are mandated to restoring the link with earnings and may have to vote accordingly.

Yesterday Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, and Harriet Harman, Shadow Social Security Secretary, had meetings with Lady Castle to try to persuade her to drop her campaign. But Lady Castle, who is speaking at a Tribune rally tomorrow night, gave no indication that she was prepared to climb down.

Speaking on BBC1's *Breakfast with Frost*, Lady Castle criticised the Labour leadership for "cherry-picking" from the Borrie report on the welfare state commissioned by the late John Smith. "Little bits of it have been cherry-picked out into a mish-mash of rather vague policy pension statements."

The policy document *New Life, New Britain*, published in July, contained a series of "unspecified pension entitlements" she said. But she made it clear that Gordon Brown was now betraying traditional Labour principles by abandoning the long-standing party policy of restoring the link with earnings. "At the last minute, we are being asked to turn *upside* down the whole of our traditional policy, which is a state insurance scheme, a contributory one, a compulsory one. That is the betrayal of the welfare state."

Referring to the latest compromise of a pension commission, she accused the Labour leadership of "running scared" because of the strong support her campaign had gathered. She made clear that her proposals did not amount to a "mad spending spree" but she conceded that party unity could prevail during Wednesday's debate. "If Gordon Brown had not put the frighteners on — about not spending any money — if it wasn't for that the conference would vote overwhelmingly for our proposal."

Mr Brown argued on the same programme that he hoped there would be a meeting of minds, with both sides agreeing the best deal for pensioners that could be afforded. He said he had great respect for Lady Castle but any spending decisions would have to be taken in the light of economic circumstances. "The old-fashioned view was to link pensions in line with prices or earnings, whichever was greater. We will look at this in government but only in the context of a tough approach to public spending."

Peter Riddell, page 20
Leading article, page 21

LABOUR'S CONFERENCE AGENDA

TODAY 30

HEALTH: Chris Smith, Shadow Health Secretary, will outline NHS plans, promising to transfer £100 million from bureaucracy to frontline care. In stark contrast to Labour's 1992 programme, he will put the case for improving the Tory reforms rather than ditching them

ECONOMY: Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, will tread a tightrope on tax and spending, the issues that lost Labour the last election. His reluctance to go into detail risks a backlash from activists who want big spending pledges and a more redistributive tax policy

UNEMPLOYMENT: Party leaders face possible defeat on a national minimum wage and employment rights. Unions will demand a £4.26 hourly rate and full rights from first day in a new job. The leadership will insist that the minimum rate will be settled after a Labour victory

NEC ELECTION: All eyes will be on whether Harriet Harman, Shadow Social Security Secretary, will manage to keep her seat on the national executive after the controversy over her son's schooling

TUESDAY 1

FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary, will demand that Britain take a lead in Europe but is likely to duck the issue of a single currency. Several motions call on Labour to rule out a single currency in the next Parliament or press for a delay

WOMEN: Delegates will seek assurances that Tony Blair is planning new measures to ensure equal representation for women in Parliament. Many activists are worried about his decision to drop the policy of women-only shortlists for selecting parliamentary candidates

LEADER'S SPEECH: Tony Blair will call for unity in the run-up to the election and urge support for Labour's modernisation programme for a first Parliament. He will reaffirm that extra education and health spending can be funded only by curbing the welfare state

WEDNESDAY 2

TRANSPORT: Andrew Smith, Shadow Transport Secretary, will face calls for a tougher stand on rail privatisation as he tries to shift policy in favour of greater regulation. The new position follows Labour's realisation that it could not afford to renationalise also faces defeat on plans to scrap child benefit for older childen

EDUCATION: David Blunkett, Shadow Education Secretary, will outline revised policy embracing more selection in state schools plus a graduate tax to fund university education. He will pledge that education will be the first port of call for extra spending

WELFARE: Harriet Harman and Barbara Castle will clash over state pensions. Lady Castle will demand that state pensions rise in line with earnings, which Ms Harman will say is unaffordable. The leadership also faces defeat on plans to scrap child benefit for older childen

THURSDAY 3

HOME AFFAIRS: Jack Straw will call for tough measures to combat crime, and harsher penalties for young offenders. He will defend Labour's devolution plans against motions questioning the party's commitment to a tax-raising Scottish parliament

MANIFESTO: Delegates will vote on Labour's entire draft manifesto, which contains the bulk of the party's policy for the next Parliament. Next month 400,000 party members will be balloted on the same document

FRIDAY 4

GENERAL ELECTION: John Prescott, deputy party leader, will rally the party for the campaign. The conference will close with a muted rendition of the Red Flag, which has once again been reprieved, and Auld Lang Syne

Left wing demands higher taxes for the rich

BY ANDREW PIERCE
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LEFT-WING Labour MPs challenged Tony Blair yesterday to abandon his attempts to woo middle-class voters and to introduce a progressive tax system based on people's ability to pay.

The Campaign Group of MPs, ignoring appeals for unity, mocked the leadership's obsession with spin-doctors, attacked moves to end universal child benefit, and criticised the pace of internal party reform that had disenchanted thousands of party activists.

Diane Abbot, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, criticised Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, over the decision to end child benefit for 16 to 18-year-olds and replace it with an education and training grant. She told the fringe meeting: "If Gordon Brown is concerned that wives of millionaires get child benefit I have a solution: put up the taxes of the millionaires." Labour was much more than a press release from the spin-doctors. "It's a crusade or it is nothing."

Alan Simpson, secretary of the group, said that the modernisation of the party risked being seen as nothing more than "candyfloss" unless it was accompanied by commitments to help pensioners and the unemployed. The draft manifestor was not enough to deal with the scale of problems Labour would find in government.

Mr Simpson, MP for Nottingham South, said: "We are nearing the end of the phoney war that exists between spin-doctors rather than serious politicians."

Speaker after speaker appealed for the principles of universality to be enshrined in the welfare state. Mr Simpson drew thunderous applause when he declared: "We should say we will pay for it out of a progressive tax system that takes from those who have the ability to pay."

He added: "Beyond the razzmatazz and what remains of the candyfloss, I believe it is possible to define a set of priorities that Labour will have to address — we will be unafraid to call them socialist."

Lew Adams, general secretary of the ASLEF train drivers' union, pledged a fight to preserve any attempt to sever the links between the Labour movement and the party. "This is the new danger in new Labour. Some people apparently believe that the only certain way of ensuring victory is to jettison all our principles and to pander to fairweather friends in the middle class," he said.

"Labour voters are getting confused, concerned and ultimately disenchanted."

Blair warned of split unless he says no to EMU

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ANDREW PIERCE

TONY BLAIR was sent a clear warning by his backbenchers yesterday that the Labour Party faces serious divisions unless he rules out Britain's early membership of a single currency.

Labour MPs rounded on the leadership for failing to take a firm stance against monetary union, claiming that Mr Blair would face "the same dilemmas" as John Major over Europe. The party's Euro-sceptics intensified pressure on Mr Blair to state clearly that he would not take Britain into a single currency during the first term of a Labour government.

However, Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, tried to calm the sceptics ers by reiterating that Labour would not join a single currency without the consent of the voters. He said that the party would seek approval either through a general election or a referendum. "We are the only party that has given the British people a referendum on Europe," he said.

Peter Shore, one of the leading Labour Euro-sceptics, was joined at fringe meetings by a string of left-wing backbenchers in fighting closer links with Europe. Mr Shore told one meeting: "Tony Blair will face the same harsh realities and dilemmas as John Major and Margaret Thatcher before him."

Alan Simpson, Jeremy Corbyn and Ken Livingstone were among leftwingers who pointed to widespread fears about closer links with Europe. About 50 Euro-sceptic MPs and many trade unionists fear that meeting the economic criteria for entry could result in huge job losses and billions wiped off public spending.

Mr Livingstone, MP for Brent East, told a fringe meeting: "If we join EMU with the commitment of the Maastricht Treaty, you will lock us into a recession and break the Labour government. That will let in the Tories."

Mr Cook, speaking at a fringe meeting of the Parliamentary Group of the Party of European Socialists, said that Labour was absolutely clear that the British people would not be taken into a single currency without their consent. "That is not only right it is recognition of the inevitable," he said.

But he resisted calls to specify, before the election campaign, whether Labour would sign up to a single currency.

Cook stresses his loyalty and urges help for poor

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ROBIN COOK came forward as the standard-bearer of the Labour Left yesterday as he urged Tony Blair to concentrate help on the poor.

The Shadow Foreign Secretary spoke in favour of tax cuts for the lowest paid and defended Labour's trade union links as he underlined the need to address the plight of "the underdog" while appealing to middle-class voters.

Mr Cook made the move after beginning the day embroiled in a public dispute over his earlier comments that had been interpreted as an attack on Mr Blair.

Mr Cook had reacted furiously to Sunday newspaper reports that suggested that he had criticised the Labour leader for failing to address the issue of poverty.

Mr Cook, the party's policy chief, said in an interview with *The Sunday Times*: "It's very important that as we reach out to these new voters we also remember that the coalition on which we're building a Labour victory includes the dispossessed and those who have had the toughest time under Thatcher.

"There is a very real danger that we're ignoring the needs of a minority in society who find themselves in a very difficult position, usually through no fault of their own"

However, Mr Cook angrily denied that his comments had been intended as criticism of Mr Blair. He took the unusual step of publishing a transcript of the interview to prove that his remarks were aimed more generally at the media and to prove that he had praised his leader repeatedly.

Mr Cook said that the report carried on the front page, about the interview inside the paper, which sent tremors through Labour ranks as delegates arrived in Blackpool, had been "mischievous and dishonest and wholly unprofessional."



Cook: angered by newspaper report

John Witherow, the editor of *The Sunday Times*, said that he stood by the report, adding: "Mr Cook's words speak for themselves. He said that as 'we reach out to' new voters, we should also remember the dispossessed. He was clearly talking about Labour."

The Shadow Foreign Secretary went on during the day to emphasise the importance of protecting the poor. "Of course we must remember the dispossessed ... There are people who have done extremely badly out of the last 17 years who desperately need a Labour government ... If we have the money we make sure that tax cuts are focused on those who are poorest."

Turning his attention to the party's links with trade unions, Mr Cook moved to dispel suggestions that a Labour government would end the relationship if it faced excessive demands from the union movement. He said that there was no need for a divorce because the two sides were "happily married. The trades unions ... provide us with a network of peoples with whom we share common political objectives — why on earth should we have divorce in these circumstances?"

Prescott praises his leader's 'vision and courage'



Prescott: backing Blair all the way

BY JILL SHERMAN

JOHN PRESCOTT yesterday gave his backing to Tony Blair's attempts to modernise Labour, claiming that the party leader had "vision, commitment, courage," and could see what had to be done.

The deputy Labour leader admitted that he personally had misgivings about Mr Blair's decision to scrap Clause Four commitment to nationalisation, but said: "He was right on that." In a clear sign that he has decided to put his misgivings about Mr Blair's leadership style behind him — at least in public — he admitted that sometimes he had accused of him of going too fast.

"I've said that over Clause Four but this man had vision, he had commitment, he had courage to have his sight on. Thinking what had to be done, seeing what had to be done. That's what you want in a driver," he said.

"It's called 'leadership' and when people like me, like on Clause Four, say: 'Hang on! Im a bit of a Doubting Thomas here, I'm concerned about it', I think you've got to have the courage and conviction that say change is ongoing, change is the Labour Party, change is about new Labour."

Conducting a fine balancing act Mr Prescott made clear that Labour's new vision combined economic realism with social justice. He refused to be drawn on whether those over £100,000 should be on higher tax rates. While he supported moves by Gordon Brown to close tax loopholes which were now exploited by millionaires, he said there was no proposal for a 50p tax rate for those on over £100,000.

The most important objective was to get more people into jobs and off welfare benefits — to unlock the potential of the people. "Wealth creation. The Labour Party is as concerned about wealth creation as it is about wealth distribution. Highlighting elements of Mr Blair's speech today, which he helped to draft, he added: "It's about fairness, it's about justice, its about business, its about partnership."

He also denied that that there were any plans to break the link with the trade unions completely. However, he conceded that there could be further changes which trade union leaders themselves favoured. Questioned on the row over pensions, he made clear that he had backed the policy for bigger state pensions in 1992 but he realised the money was no longer available. "We have to face the reality of resources here, about what money is available. The argument will take place on the conference floor against all these priorities that we are putting up to the electorate. We are within months of the Election and we hafve to balance what we'll promise against what we'll be able to find from those public financed."

What I am trying to say to you at the moment, is not that I think that pensioners should not have a right to be sharing in the prosperity of the country. What I am saying is that our priority is to make sure the prosperity of the country can now increase."

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Bar Conference: Opposition sets out policies on funding and judicial appointments

Labour promises to bear down hard on legal aid costs

REPORTS BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LAW REFORMS

A LABOUR government would "bear down hard" on legal aid costs, tackling the 1 per cent of big cases that consumed more than £100 million — almost half — of the criminal legal aid budget, the Shadow Lord Chancellor told the Bar Conference yesterday.

Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, added that he regarded the Government's White Paper on legal aid as a "dead letter". Its proposed test of "deservingness" was unworkable although Labour wanted to strengthen the merits test to ensure the right cases qualified for legal aid.

Detailing for the first time Labour's policy on lawyers and the courts, Lord Irvine told the conference, sponsored by Allied Dunbar and *The Times*, that lawyers could expect no more money under Labour. There would be no exemption from its policy of prudent public finance.

He also urged action to tackle the low public esteem for the law. There must be a new "co-operative endeavour" to raise the public standing of the law and restore legal aid to the status of a public social service.

He called for further reforms to the way judges were appointed, including advertising of High Court posts, more involvement of lay people in the selection process and the creation of an advisory Judicial Appointments Commission. And he sounded a note of caution over the civil justice reforms proposed by Lord Woolf, the Lord Chief Justice, saying lack of funds could put the Government in confrontation with the judiciary.

Lord Irvine said that "the tabloid-influenced public" saw costs differently from lawyers who made most of their money from legal aid cases. "And when they read about super silks in the private sector who are alleged to earn more than £1 million per annum, that feeds into a belief that all lawyers are fat cats, although some are fatter than others."

He added: "When the Bar complains that a QC will be paid a flat rate fee of £150 for an hour in court and £450 for half a day, with a junior at half these rates, the majority of the public thinks these sums are wealth untold."

They did not know about the Bar's overheads or preparation for court work. Nor was the reputation of the law enhanced when legal aid was granted for long and complex cases and to those whose lifestyles showed they should not have it, he said.

He promised to review plans for legal aid block contracts with solicitors, and for standard or fixed fees for civil cases, which the Government had proposed "without prior negotiation".

Lord Irvine backed the aims of Lord Woolf's proposed reforms to cut costs and delays but he gave warning that these had "serious resource implications". The plans, which envisage a "major shift in the balance of power from the lawyers to the judges" as trial managers, could not be delivered without extra resources.

He also expressed reservations about judges being too interventionist in managing trials. "I see a potentiality for conflict arising out of time limits for trial and cross-examination."

Homosexual partnerships should specifically not be a block to judicial appointment, Lord Irvine said. Candidates should be told that they are not obliged to disclose sexual orientation or cohabitation with a partner of the same sex.

Besides proposing a new Judicial Appointments Commission with a strong lay element, Lord Irvine welcomed the open competition and advertising of circuit judge posts and below. But that should be extended to the High Court, he said.

"I do not believe that the present system of appointment guarantees that all deserving candidates will be identified and considered."

The hour-long address was warmly received by the 500 barristers, who support almost all of Labour's proposed justice policy, in sharp contrast to the hostility generated by the Lord Chancellor's plans for legal aid.

Some described the speech as "more conservative" than Lord Mackay of Clashfern's policies. But others saw it as a skilful blend that built on the best of current government reforms in, for instance, judicial appointments, while taking on board the profession's concern over proposals for legal aid.

David Penry-Davey, QC, the Bar chairman, welcomed the speech as "extremely positive", singling out for concern only Lord Irvine's plans to reduce criminal legal aid fees. It was important that fees were fair and "transparent", he said. But it was equally important that people were properly defended. "It is a myth to suppose that barristers or solicitors simply ask for huge sums and get them," he said.



Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, the Shadow Lord Chancellor, said lawyers could expect no more money under Labour



Penry-Davey: welcomed speech as "positive"

BRIEFING

Students need help to afford training

Measures to stop the Bar becoming a preserve of the rich were called for at the weekend.

The plight of young people without funding seeking to become barristers was highlighted by Cherie Booth, QC, vice-chair of this year's Bar conference. She had, she said, "entered the Bar 20 years ago, a young woman with no money and no connections; what chance do you think a similarly placed young woman would have today?"

Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Shadow Lord Chancellor, agreed that although the Bar had become "less middle-class dominated", the situation was now "going into reverse".

Ms Booth had been able to obtain a local authority discretionary award to pay for her professional training, Lord Irvine said. Now councils were so "strapped for cash" that they did not provide them. "We have got to look at the whole system of discretionary awards for all the professions."

Bar may get female head

The prospect of the first woman to lead the Bar has emerged with the decision of Heather Hallett, QC, leader of the South Eastern Circuit, to throw her hat in the ring for next month's elections for the post of vice-chair. Ms Hallett, a recorder, will contest the seat with Douglas Day, QC, also a recorder and deputy High Court judge.

Ms Hallett, a popular member of the Bar Council who has chaired the Bar's public affairs committee, can expect the support of the circuits. Mr Day, well known in the criminal and commercial field, is likely to win the support of the Criminal Bar Association. He is currently vice-chairman of the Bar Council's legal services committee.

Whoever wins the post of vice-chair in the poll of the 90-strong Bar Council would be likely to succeed to the post of chair in 1998.

Conditions in regions 'third rate'

POOR FACILITIES

JUDGES trying important civil disputes in the regions are forced to use "seedy" court buildings with no facilities and to stay in third-rate government-approved hotels, a High Court judge told the conference.

Judge Weeks, QC, who sits as a Chancery and mercantile judge in Bristol, said there needed to be more full-time High Court judges to try civil work in the regions and better support facilities.

The present poor conditions resulted in a "disaffected judiciary and great difficulties in recruitment", he said. When High Court judges travelled to the regions, they mainly dealt with criminal cases and not civil work.

"The vast bulk of the High Court civil work outside London is done by circuit judges who sit full time as High Court judges for 70 per cent of the pay," he added. "They have no clerical or other assistance and if they want to type a judgment or write a letter they have to do it themselves.

"When they are away from home, they stay in third-rate government-approved hotels on an allowance which is less than that given to a JP."

As a result, he said, solicitors and litigants felt that they were getting a second-class service, while paying High Court fees.

He said that when new courts were built, they tended to be used for criminal work. "If you steal a Mars bar in the West Country, you are tried in the Bristol Palais de Justice, with every modern facility. If you are seeking an administration order for a company with a turnover of £50 million, you do it in a decaying 19th-century building with no proper heating, no conference room and one public telephone shared with battered wives and their offspring." He called for the merging of the Chancery and mercantile courts because the distinction made "no sense" in Bristol.

At least three High Court judges were needed to sit full time in the North and two outside London in the South, he said. There also needed to be to be more support for judges. "I have no personal clerk, computer or word processor and this document is typed only by the courtesy of a High Court judge's clerk," he said.

Scrap Latin to make law more friendly, says judge

LEGALESE

A HIGH COURT judge has called for the "traditional trappings" of the law — including Latin tags and legalese — to be scrapped to show that the legal system serves the public.

Mr Justice Parker told the conference that the civil justice system must not only work efficiently and effectively, it must "be seen to do so". "Its traditional trappings must not be allowed to obscure the public's view of the way it works and the service it provides," he said. That played into the hands of those who portrayed the system as an "historical curiosity".

He called for greater use of plain English in legal documents, legal advice, written and oral advocacy and judgments; less legalese; and no Latin quotations — "no one understands them and anyway there is usually a perfectly good English equivalent".

Courts should show more appreciation of the convenience of litigants, he said. "The need is to demonstrate more clearly that the system exists for the benefit not of the lawyers but of the public."

The judge, who is responsible for the work of the Chancery courts in the North of England, criticised other aspects of the civil justice system that served only to confuse people.

He added: "To too many people, the civil justice system remains a mysterious creature, born of the Dark Ages, ponderous of movement, slow of reaction, emitting unearthly and incomprehensible sounds as it crushes hapless litigants beneath its feet."

He cited some of its anomalies: High Court judges went out on circuit, circuit judges did not. High Court judges were knights or dames but were addressed as Mr Justice or Mrs Justice. Lords Justices were not members of the House of Lords and Lords of Appeal did not sit in the Court of Appeal.

There was also the puzzling — not to say incomprehensible, to those who were not legal historians — division of the High Court, he added. "Is the distinction between the Queen's Bench Division and the Chancery Division worth preserving?"

He said that from his experience in the North, the continuing division was an "anachronism which obstructs the proper and effective development of the civil justice system in the service of local communities."

He called for new Civil Justice Centres in each of the major trial centres, which would deal with all civil work except for family cases. They would also include a judge to deal with commercial cases.

£60,000 for new post

The Bar is advertising for a non-lawyer to head its new complaints system, with a salary of £60,000 a year. The complaints commissioner will oversee the investigation of complaints against barristers under the new system, which for the first time will enable people to complain about shoddy work by members of the profession.

David Penry-Davey, QC, Bar chairman, said that the commissioner would be the "cornerstone of what we believe will be a substantially improved system of dealing with grievances against barristers, which we believe will prove quicker, cheaper and just".

Fixed fees attacked

The Government's plans to bring in fixed legal aid fees for lawyers doing civil cases were attacked by the Bar chairman as "disastrous".

Signalling a campaign of Bar opposition to the plans, David Penry-Davey, QC, said the Lord Chancellor had flown in the face of advice from his own management consultants. "These proposals are unfair, contrary to the Government's own consultants' conclusions, and totally unacceptable," he told the conference.

"We will put alternative proposals to Government which will be fair, workable and facilitate rather than destroy access to civil justice."

Act 'will allow prosecution to withhold vital evidence'

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESONDENT

DISCLOSURE

NEW Government laws will enable the prosecution to withhold evidence that could be important to the defence case and lead to miscarriages of justice, a senior Queen's Counsel has said.

Roy Amlot, QC, who as Treasury counsel from 1974 to 1989 prosecuted all the most serious cases for the Crown, told lawyers at the conference that the new law had tipped the balance on disclosure of evidence heavily in favour of the prosecution.

The Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 enabled the prosecution to decide what material to disclose, and put lawyers back in the position they were in before the Attorney-General issued guidelines on disclosure in 1981.

The Act was passed with minimum opposition from either side of the Commons. Mr Amlot said he was "very concerned" about the likely impact of the new law after progress over the years had been made through court rulings requiring the prosecution to disclose all material.

Because the police carried out the investigation of crime and were first on the scene, there should always be "a heavy onus on the prosecution to share the fruits of its investigation with the defence," he said. In turn, there should always be a culture among police and prosecution which assumed that any material which might be relevant should be disclosed.

But the new Act enabled the prosecution, in effect, to decide what to disclose. It need not disclose anything that would not undermine its case; nor anything that was not essential to the defence.

It had to produce a list of material, but this could be in general terms. "The judgment of what undermines the prosecution case or assists the defence remains at all times with the prosecutor." The fear, he added, was that a culture of "non-disclosure" would set in.



Barbara Mills: backed the new legislation

Barbara Mills, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, who supported the new legislation, said that the Crown Prosecution Service was carrying out a large training programme so that the "culture of disclosure" would continue.

☐ A leading forensic scientist warned that the field of forensic science was unregulated with many "dubious" scientists offering their services to defence lawyers. Dr Angela Gallop, a partner with Forensic Access, said that defence lawyers were at a severe "forensic" disadvantage when faced with the prosecution in criminal cases.

She attacked the Forensic Science Service, which became an agency in 1991, as "drowning in a sea of its own making, blindly pursuing each new management fad as it is dreamed up and forgetting what it is that it is supposed to be doing."

At present, forensic science was unregulated and "this amounts to a charter for charlatans and incompetents," she said. One laboratory produced what appeared to be "unassailable evidence" of a link between the defendant and some clothing, she said. On investigating their procedures, she found the scientist could have produced all the evidence he claimed to have found. "In short, his work was so deeply flawed that the best thing to do was to forget all about it," she said.

There was no system of accreditation and any "Tom, Dick or Harriet with only minimal scientific training but sufficient brass can set themselves up in business as forensic scientists," she added.

Although making the Forensic Science Service an agency gave the defence lawyers equal acccess to its experts, she questioned whether the defence lawyers received as good a service, as the agency's primary responsibility was to the police.

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Afghanis wary as new invaders impose Sharia



Christopher Thomas writes from Kabul that despite shows of barbarity, Taleban is treating citizens impeccably.

THE veil is descending once more on Kabul, the broken capital of what is left of Afghanistan. Taleban invaders have imposed the strictest interpretation of Sharia (Islamic law), under which thieves will have a hand amputated and adulterers stoned or lashed to death.

An accused thief was paraded through the city yesterday, tied to the back of a lorry with banknotes stuffed into his ears and mouth. A heavy weight was strapped to his jaw. Announcements from a loudspeaker proclaimed this to be a warning to other thieves. It was public torture: a barbaric demonstration of the kind of society Taleban has started to impose.

Women have been ordered into purdah: there were few of them on the streets yesterday, and they were covered head to toe in the *burqa* — most in black. Kabul is traditionally a liberal city and the ultra-conservative new rules will come hard.

Girls' schools have been closed and women with jobs have been told they must resign and stay at home. That will mean a crisis for Kabul's 40,000 war widows, most of whom are already in poverty from bringing up children alone. For 2,000 years Kabul, cursed by its location, has been invaded. But no invader has acted more strangely than Taleban, a holy army whose integrity to its hardline beliefs is indisputable.

Its impeccable behaviour with the general population since occupying Kabul on Thursday is in startling contrast to the tradition of Pashtun plunder. For all its philosophical extremism, Taleban is mostly welcomed for bringing a rare taste of law and order.

Last night, after a brief exchange of artillery fire, the Taleban overran the Parwan provincial capital of Charikar. As news of the fall of another city reached Kabul, its one million people started worrying about Taleban's viciousness. The bodies of Muhammad Najibullah, the former President who led a Russian-backed Government, and his brother Ahmadzai, were cut down yesterday from outside the presidential palace, where they had hung by the neck since being killed last week. Ahmadzai, in his twenties, had arrived from his home in Germany only last week, and was trapped by the sudden Taleban advance.

Najibullah's wife, Fatana, and their three daughters arrived in Kabul aboard an International Committee of the Red Cross flight from the Pakistani border city of Peshawar. Taleban assured them of safe passage. The family are guests of the Indian Government in Delhi, and live in an expensive section of the city.

Taleban's victory puts Kabul firmly back into the hands of the Pashtuns, the majority ethnic group of Afghanistan, and the traditional rulers of Kabul. Taleban — the name means "student" — emerged from *madrassas* (Islamic schools) in Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan in 1994 and soon began its stunning military advance. Its religious mystique gives it a peculiar hold over the population.

"Shooting a Taleban soldier is like a Catholic shooting a priest," a Western aid worker said. Pakistan — which denies helping to create Taleban, although it undoubtedly played a role — is quietly delighted at the turn of events. Friendly relations with a more stable Afghanistan would enable it to realise an old dream of opening trade routes to Central Asia. That may be a premature hope. General Dostum, the powerful Uzbek warlord who controls the north, is rumoured to be talking to leaders of the ousted Government about a military alliance. Taleban hates him as a former army commander in Najibullah's Communist Government. There seems scant chance that Afghanistan will find peace.

The leaders of the deposed regime are in hiding in the northeast. Burhanuddin Rabbani, the ousted President, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the Prime Minister, and Ahmad Shah Masood, the defence chief, have been sentenced to death by Taleban. Pakistan wants nothing more to do with them, and will not readily offer sanctuary. Taleban fighters headed north to find them.

Letters, page 21

SHAFIQULLAH/REUTER



Men enjoy renewed calm on the streets of Kabul at the weekend after Taleban ordered women to resign from their jobs and stay at home

Taleban offers Kabul glimpse of stability

BY LAWRENCE FREEDMAN

ANY regime which publicly hangs the body of a former president and imposes stern Islamic law is likely to ring international alarm bells, yet the seizure of Kabul by the Taleban militia is also being greeted with some relief as it provides the best hope of ending almost two decades of war.

From December 1979, when Soviet troops entered Afghanistan to prop up a failing Marxist regime, to their departure a decade later, the conflict was understood in largely global terms as part of the Cold War. There was some surprise when the Soviet withdrawal did not result in peace.

Not for the first time America had been over-impressed by "my enemy's enemy is my friend" type arguments. It had armed the Mujahidin rebels to embarrass Moscow, and was then distressed when the rebel groups began to fight among themselves, with some inclined to Iranian-style radical Islamic positions. The deadly equipment — such as Stinger anti-aircraft missiles — sent to defeat Soviet forces was now finding its way to a variety of militant groups.

The disarray among the Mujahidin allowed the former Communists to cling to power — until they were left isolated when the Soviet Union collapsed. Then attempts by the United Nations to mediate to produce a coalition government foundered on the rivalries between different groups reflecting the country's complex ethnic divisions.

Bordering countries confused matters further by supporting groups according to their own interests. Because of this, it was assumed until recently that Afghanistan was

> Pakistan is well placed to benefit from the Taleban militia's success

doomed to a bloody stalemate, with external backers doing enough to prevent their side being defeated.

Taleban is a relative newcomer. The militia made its appearance two years ago. Initial military successes reflected a potent combination of youthful commitment and spiritual energy, backed by Pakistani merchants who were anxious to reopen their traditional trade — and smuggling — routes to Central Asia. Success brought Taleban financial rewards, and led to much more direct support from the Pakistani Government, including military training. With Pakistan the main beneficiary of Taleban's breakthrough, the other regional powers must work out how to respond. Iran — increasingly marginalised in the struggle for Kabul — appears ready to reach some accommodation. India is inevitably suspicious.

Russia and the Central Asia republics still have their own battles with fundamentalist Islam. They must decide whether to support the militias based on the Uzbeks and the Tajiks — who will be less than happy with the return of a Pashtun-dominated Government. The Tajiks provided much of the government army that collapsed in the face of the Taleban assault last week. The more secular-minded people of Kabul provide another potential source of opposition, for they will find strict Islamic code both unpalatable and impractical.

For the moment, Taleban can build on a popular hope that a stable Government might at last be in place. The more it seeks to impose an uncompromising theocracy, the greater the risk of a return to instability.

Women protest at Islamic ruling

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN ISLAMABAD

HUNDREDS of angry Pakistani women yesterday demonstrated outside the Punjab High Court in Lahore against a recent ruling which stops women marrying without the consent of their guardians.

The protest was organised by Women's Action Forum, a rights group, and attracted support from women lawyers, writers, artists and journalists. "The judgment is unacceptable as it is in violation of the constitution which guarantees equal rights to all citizens," said Hina Jilani, leader of the forum.

About 100 yards away, 50 women wearing veils held a counter-demonstration in support of the judgment.

Justice Abdul Hafeez Cheema last week declared void the marriages of two young women who wed men of their choice against the wishes of their fathers. The judgment was handed down on petitions filed separately by the women who have been charged under Islamic law, along with their husbands, with fornication. Ayesha Ijaz, 14, and Shabina Zafar, 19, married after running away from home.

Quoting from the Koran and Sharia, Mr Justice Cheema declared: "No marriage except the marriages of Muhammad is valid without the permission of the guardians of the women." He said that even divorcees and widows had to seek permission from their guardian to remarry.

The judgment has provoked a strong reaction from progressive groups, who see it as giving legitimacy to fundamentalists. "The judgment has taken away the basic rights of women to decide about their lives," Miss Jilani said.

Jugnu Mohsin, editor of the weekly *Friday Times*, said: "It is the most ridiculous judgment which will leave women at the mercy of their guardians. The judgment represents obscure thinking which considers women nothing more than chattels."

Women activists have called on the Pakistan judiciary to reverse the judgment. The majority of Pakistani women, particularly those living in rural areas, have no say in the choice of their spouses and are bound to marry according to the wishes of their parents. But in the more developed urban areas, educated women increasingly marry men of their choice, despite Islamic laws imposed under the late General Zia ul-Haq in the 1980s.

☐ **Kuwait:** Eight days before Kuwait's men-only elections, hundreds of lawyers, doctors, artists and other prominent women demonstrated yesterday for the right to vote. Women across the emirate staged a one-hour strike to drive home the point. *(AP)*

Letters, page 21

Sri Lanka retakes Tiger town

Colombo: Sri Lankan forces yesterday captured the Tamil Tigers' northern stronghold of Kilinochchi, the last large town under rebel control.

A military spokesman said the troops, who launched an offensive a week ago from Paranthan, encircled and then moved into the town after fierce rebel resistance. "Clearing operations are in progress and the troops are consolidating in Kilinochchi," he added. *(Reuter)*

Burma stops activist talks

Rangoon: The Burmese Government accused the opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, and other democracy leaders of breaking laws and instigating unrest, and maintained military checkpoints around the Nobel Peace prizewinner's house to prevent a weekend meeting of activists there. *(Reuter)*

Crime at one's fingertips

New York: Bernardo Reyes, 30, a suspected drug dealer arrested in Allentown, Pennsylvania carrying nearly 300 packets of heroin, chewed the skin off his fingertips while he was awaiting questioning in an apparent attempt to prevent police taking his fingerprints.

Armenian poll win confirmed

Yerevan: Final results confirmed President Levon Ter-Petrosyan the victor in Armenian elections, with 51.75 per cent of the vote. Vazgen Manukyan came second with 41.29 per cent, while Sergei Badalyan, a Communist, was third with 6.34 per cent. *(Reuter)*

Muslims back to the future

Sarajevo: Muslim-controlled parts of Bosnia put clocks back an hour by government decree — then put them forward again to match the rest of country when officials realised they had ended summer time a month early. *(Reuter)*

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Mixed messages reveal colony's fear for future

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE statements last week in Hong Kong by two top officials reveal the contrasts in character underlying the colony's anguish as the 1997 handover to China draws near. The officials are Sir Ti Liang Yang, the Chief Justice, and Anson Chan, Chief Secretary and Deputy Governor. Each is the first Chinese in those posts.

Sir Ti Liang, who recently declared himself a candidate for Hong Kong's first Chief Executive appointed by China, said last week that he was prepared to give up his knighthood after he resigns his office in November. This is a move calculated to please China. Honours and gongs are no longer in vogue here.

"He can send his badge back to the palace, and they'll quietly put it in a drawer somewhere, and just as quietly go on regarding him as a knight," V. L. Warrington, chief of protocol at Government House, said.

Last November it emerged that at a dinner attended by one of Peking's officials here, the Chief Justice said that Hong Kong's Bill of Rights damaged the legal system. Soon it emerged that he had also told Peking of his opinion.

A chorus of protests arose from the Bar: Sir Ti Liang had said publicly that he disapproved of laws which he had to administer and which protected freedom of speech, assembly, and publication.



Sir Ti Liang: willing to give up knighthood

The Government's chief legal officers repudiated the Chief Justice's view and he was called upon by Ms Chan to explain himself, which he did, lamely. Chris Patten, the Governor, banged the table in the Legislative Council and insisted: "The council makes laws and the judiciary carries them out."

But Peking, which despises Hong Kong's Bill of Rights and has vowed to dismember it in 1997, expressed pleasure.

Contrast this with Ms Chan, the Chief Secretary. On the same day that Sir Ti Liang said he was ready to renounce his knighthood, she spoke in in support of the Bill of Rights while visiting Australia. Ms Chan — who is Hong Kong's popular favourite to become Chief Justice, but never will be — has to defend daily the city's integrity and liberty without making it impossible for her to continue in government after 1997.

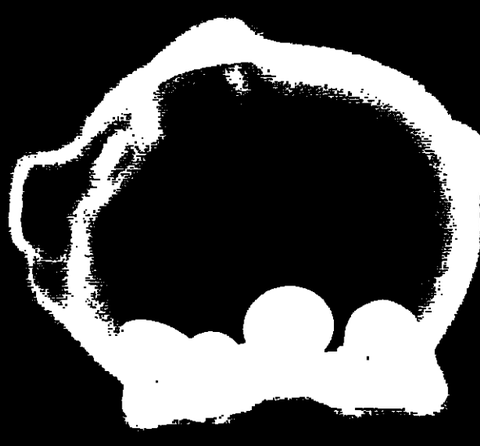
"We have enacted a Bill of Rights ordinance," she said, "and have over the years made sure that all our laws are fully consistent with the Bill of Rights ... that guarantees human rights and human freedom."

Ms Chan said something else as well, which in the short term will make her enemies here, especially after a Hong Kong man drowned leading a protest voyage to what she referred more than once as the Senkaku Islands. This is the Japanese name for the uninhabited cluster in the East China Sea, occupied by Japan but claimed by China, which calls them the Diaoyu Islands.

So does everyone in Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan, where thousands have demonstrated against Japanese "imperialism". Ms Chan is Chinese to her fingertips, but the islands are deemed internationally to be Japanese, so she doggedly says Senkaku.

Ms Chan will probably continue to be favoured for Chief Executive by most Hong Kong people, while Sir Ti Liang, or plain Mr Yang, will secure few supporters here.

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Single-currency opponents can make mischief for beleaguered Kohl

THIS WEEK IN EUROPE

The political game in Europe is changing, and the next fortnight of party conferences will show if British politicians have woken up to the fact. Like failed military leaders, many politicians get stuck fighting the last war and fail to see the next one coming.

When John Major and his fellow European Union leaders sit down in Dublin this Saturday, they will debate second-order subjects: timorous, technocratic schemes for beefing up the Maastricht treaty. But all the same, fringe meetings and conference halls in Blackpool and later Brighton will echo to the rattle of rhetorical gunfire from the well-dug trenches on each side of the sovereignty debate. Mr Major will swear to resist any transfer of power to Brussels, but duck and weave to avoid ruling out the single currency; Tony Blair will mix a little more flexibility into his soundbites, but try to leave the clear impression that the national interest will be safe in his hands.

That was the last battle: strategy and tactics now change. The only game in town for British politicians is to decide whether they work towards Britain joining the single currency or exploit whatever opportunities occur to derail the whole enterprise.

If the large and ill-assorted coalition that fears that the single currency will damage all of Europe follows the logic of its convictions, its members should be making mischief for Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and President Chirac of France as they struggle towards 1998.

In that crowded year, both Germany and France are to hold general elections and EU leaders will sit down, probably under Mr Blair's chairmanship, to vote on who joins the single currency.

The challenge lies in designing subtle sabotage. A few days spent in Germany convinced me that, while Herr Kohl may manage to win over the majority of German public opinion still opposed to monetary union, he hasn't got it in the bag. The mood is oddly fatalistic; Germans have almost become reluctant to discuss the single currency, as if unwilling to admit that the project is brittle and elitist while at the same time confessing that they are powerless to stop it.

Herr Kohl has already repulsed an assault from the Bavarian Right on the euro; he now faces one from the Left. *Bluten für den euro* (Bleeding for the euro) said the headline in the left-of-centre *Die Woche*. Gerhard Schroeder, a leading German Social Democrat, last week openly hinted that he would like British politicians to try to stop monetary union at the last moment by blocking attempts to bend the qualification rules. Without rule-bending on a big scale, the euro won't be born.

John Redwood may be urging Mr Major to try this tactic, but he will find it hard to pose as the man who insists that the EU sticks to the letter of Maastricht. That is exactly what Mr Blair, Robin Cook and Gordon Brown should do. Nothing could be more subversive or more unimpeachably European than to argue that any single currency must be launched and run properly.

When he talks about the Maastricht deficit rule, Mr Brown should always be careful to say that 3 per cent means 3 per cent, not 3.1 per cent, not 3.2. Such a tack might land the Shadow Chancellor in some unaccustomed company, but European issues mould odd alliances.

Mr Brown's stock with Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, and the Bundesbank would rise. Most importantly, a British campaign insisting that the treaty criteria be observed in spirit and letter would be deeply embarrassing for Herr Kohl, who hopes that everybody will look the other way when the time comes to massage the figures. He could hardly complain about a British Labour Party preaching good behaviour.

And making the German Chancellor look lax might increase the odds that ordinary Germans will tell their leaders that Europe is not ready for monetary union.

GEORGE BROCK

Sense of disaster steals over Dole's flagging campaign

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN ST LOUIS, MISSOURI

ELECTION '96

AS BOB DOLE'S plane approached Detroit, thick black smoke billowed from a fire on the airfield's perimeter and fire engines rushed to douse the flames. It turned out to be a "disaster-training drill", prompting inevitable quips about Motown preparing for a candidate whose campaign is going up in smoke.

A day on the trail with Mr Dole shows his $100 million (£64 million) campaign really is a developing disaster. It has all the trappings of a serious White House bid — planes, motorcades and police escorts — but lacks passion, purpose or any sense of urgency.

With just five weeks left Mr Dole, 73, trails far behind President Clinton but this was his first extended trip outside the capital in four days and even then he did not arrive at Washington's National Airport until 9.30am.

Mr Dole, his aides and a few favoured journalists boarded his plane, a 727 named the Citizen's Ship. The rest of his substantial media entourage flies on a second 727 they have dubbed the Bullship. After weeks trailing the Republican nominee round the country they are a frustrated lot. He makes little news, seldom gives interviews and rarely even chats to them. The reporters joke that Mr Clinton will go anywhere and say anything while Mr Dole goes nowhere and says nothing.

The Detroit Free Press greets Mr Dole with a poll showing him 19 points behind in Michigan. He is addressing Detroit's prestigious Economic Club, and again plugs his plan for massive tax cuts and labels the President an "old-style, dyed-in-the-wool, big-spending liberal". The hour-long speech inspires nobody. Its themes are tired echoes of the 1980s.After a few carefully screened questions the audience of 2,000 makes for the doors.

Even among these hard-core Republicans there is minimal enthusiasm for the Dole economic plan. John Smith, chairman of General Motors, says he wants deficit reduction. Nancy Dedenbach, a Republican councillor, calls the plan a non-starter and her party's candidate a loser.

Mr Dole flies on to Ohio, a state without which no Republican has ever won the White House. Here he trails by nine points. His venue is Shelby, a rural town of 9,000 where his arrival causes real excitement if only because no presidential candidate has ever visited before. Unfortunately most of the town is barred, as the event is invitation only.

This is one of the "listening to America" forums Mr Dole conducts with friendly hand-picked audiences around the country — though the time for listening has surely passed. Afterwards Michael Farley, 18, a Young Republican, complains: "They didn't give us a candidate."

Over dinner seasoned Dole-watchers doubt he swayed, or even met, one uncommitted voter that day. They compare his astonishingly light schedule with the President's frequent dawn-to-midnight out-ings. They lament Mr Dole's lightweight team, and one distinguished Washington bureau chief deems it the worst campaign since Barry Goldwater's in 1964.

What baffles them is Mr Dole's cheerfulness as his long political career draws to such a sorry end. He even jokes about it. He recently quipped that as head of the American Red Cross his wife Elizabeth visited many disaster areas — "not including my campaign".

FRANCOIS MORI/AP



A boy on rollerblades adds to a pyramid of shoes piled up at the Place du Trocadero in Paris to symbolise people who have lost limbs to landmines throughout the world (Ben Macintyre writes). Similar protests, organised by the French group, Handicap International, were also held in Lyons and Ottawa, Canada, which is to host an international conference on mines, starting on Thursday. The "shoe-ins" were held to draw attention to the threat posed by anti-personnel mines that have killed or mutilated more than 600,000 civilians in the past 20 years. According to Handicap International, which makes artificial limbs, 110 million such mines are buried in more than 70 countries.

A symbol of protest

Italian dismay at Euro-tax 'gamble'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

THE Italian Government said at the weekend it was determined to go ahead with a one-off "Euro-tax" in a bid to meet the guidelines on Economic and Monetary Union.

The move dramatically reverses Italy's discreet policy of seeking a delay in the single currency timetable. But industrialists and the centre-right opposition greeted the policy with dismay, saying it was a gamble which invited economic disaster.

The centre-left Government of Romano Prodi, the Prime Minister, met the demands of the Communists on which his coalition depends in the Lower House, by abandoning plans to cut pensions and health spending. Silvio Berlusconi, the former Prime Minister who heads the centre-right, condemned the result as a "communist" budget which would "lead Italy into a dark tunnel".

Corriere della Sera said the "Euro tax" would almost certainly not be enough, and would have to be repeated. Industrialists said the budget would hit production and reduce consumer spending. *La Repubblica* said Italy was being asked to make more sacrifices than any other European country.

Until now the Prodi Government has unofficially acknowledged that it cannot meet the EMU criteria in time. Lamberto Dini, the Foreign Minister, had publicly raised the idea of a delay. In the event, however, the desire not to be left out has overcome other considerations.

Signor Prodi said: "We calculated what it would take to be part of Europe and then took the decision". The budget yesterday won praise at an IMF meeting in Washington, attended by Signor Prodi.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 48

US approves Africa force

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

THE Clinton Administration has approved plans to set up and pay for a standing army of African soldiers to intervene to protect civilians threatened by the collapse of the continent's nation states.

State Department officials say the African Crisis Response Force would be partly funded, trained and equipped by the US and European countries.

Long mooted by US officials, the force of around 10,000 men would be kept on standby and deployed where civilian casualties were expected to be high.

The cost of maintaining such a force is estimated at about $25 million (£16 million) a year, and $40 million when it is required to be operational. It would not be allowed to take sides, but would set up safe areas where civilians could be protected.

Lebed urges Yeltsin to stand down

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL AND RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

ALEKSANDR LEBED, the Russian security chief, stirred up a new controversy over the weekend, telling a Moscow newspaper that President Yeltsin should step down from office while he is in hospital.

Breaking the official line on Mr Yeltsin's health problems, General Lebed told *Moskovsky Komsomolets* in an interview published yesterday that Mr Yeltsin should step down while he is unable to work at full capacity because of his forthcoming heart operation.

General Lebed's fears were echoed by Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader, who gave a warning that Russia could face Brezhnev-style stagnation unless a healthy leader occupies the Kremlin. In an interview in Moscow with *The Times*, Mr Gorbachev said that his rival was physically not up to the responsibilities of state.

General Lebed said Russia was now in an "unclear situation", with the President effectively out of action but still formally in control.

General Lebed himself has not met Mr Yeltsin for several weeks and has hinted that the leader is being manipulated by his aides. If Mr Yeltsin did not step down, he said, "a dangerous precedent is created when it is possible to rule the country in the name of the President. I absolutely cannot accept that."

Mr Gorbachev said: "We lost at least 10 valuable years because of leaders who were 25, 50 and sometimes 100 per cent out of action. Today the situation is even more serious because all power in Russia is concentrated in the hands of the President. When I look at [Yeltsin] now I immediately see Brezhnev and Chernenko all over again."

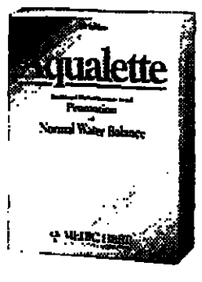


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French intellectuals in two minds over list of great thinkers

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE publication of the 1,300-page *Dictionary of French Intellectuals* in France this Thursday, has rekindled a long-running debate over precisely who merits this most coveted and indefinable of titles.

The dictionary, a guide to the great Gallic minds of the past century, is the work of historians Jacques Julliard and Michel Winock. With a team of more than 100 contributors, they have compiled a *Who's Who* of the French intellectual firmament, beginning with the writer Raymond Abellio and ending with the journalist and novelist Emile Zola.

Intellectual organisations, such as the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA) and *Le Monde* newspaper, are also included in the dictionary's 800 entries, as are intellectually important events such as the Dreyfus affair in 1894 when the word *intellectuel* gained currency.

The authors define an intellectual as "a man or woman who brings to the political system a notoriety acquired elsewhere", but their list has inevitably provoked disagreement among the French chattering classes.

Writers and thinkers such as Jean-Paul Sartre and André Malraux, the anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss and historian Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie are naturally included, as is the painter Pablo Picasso, somewhat stretching the definition of "French". But there are some more surprising entries, including popular columnist and author Jean Dutourd, the writer Colette and the revisionist historian Roger Garaudy.

In an editorial, Jean-Marie Rouart, the literary editor of *Le Figaro*, sought to draw a distinction between "all those who have, by their creations, added to the great family of thought, literature and art" and "those who, in one way or another, have taken a position on the great questions of the day".

"This myth of the intellectual risks placing greater value on politico-humanitarian action than on the work itself," M Rouart warned.

But as the sheer weight of this dictionary attests, the French intellectual has played a defining and elevated role in the history of the country this century.

Régis Debray, an archetypal left-wing intellectual, once calculated that France contains about 130,000 intellectuals, or 100 to every page of the new dictionary. Despite periodic hand-wringing over the "death" of French intellectual life, debate about intellectuals is clearly alive and well.

However, one definition of an intellectual not cited in the dictionary is that of W. H. Auden:

"To the man-in-the-street, who, I'm sorry to to say,
Is a keen observer of life,
The word "Intellectual" suggests straight away
A man who's untrue to his wife"

gfrule.5

"Dictionnaire des intellectuals Français" by Jacques Julliard and Michel Winock. Seuil, Fr295 (£39)

Court says bad dog needs its head read

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A DOG has been sent for psychiatric examination by a New York judge after it savaged its owners' granddaughter.

Becky Bear, a white-coated akita — a powerful breed of Japanese hunting dog — mauled Sarah Engstrand at her second birthday party. The child was left with scars and her parents, both lawyers, are claiming $1.2 million (about £750,000) in damages from Becky's owners, who are Sarah's grandparents.

Judge David Saxe, of Manhattan Supreme Court, hopes that an animal bahaviourist will discover if the dog has a violent nature, or whether the attack was a one-off.

The Engstrands are seeking to show that the akita had aggressive propensities, so should not have been allowed near the child. Their lawyer claimed that Sarah would need plastic surgery when she was older.

Becky Bear, now aged five, panted innocently last week as she sat at the feet of her owners. Her psychiatric exam may be conducted this week.

For her elderly owners, the case has brought much anguish. The family has been split by the legal action, which is being partly driven by an insurance company involved which paid for Sarah's medical treatment and turned down a settlement offer.

The grandparents dispute the extent of the injuries and claim that Sarah's scars are now barely visible.

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Defiant Netanyahu orders tunnel to be reopened as draconian security measures take effect

Israel unveils plan to retake troubled West Bank towns

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A DEFIANT Israel yesterday reopened the tunnel close to the Temple Mount, which sparked the clashes that left nearly 70 dead last week. It continued implementing a draconian new security plan in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip code-named Operation Field of Thorns.

Israeli sources said that the plan had been drawn-up in three stages, A, B and C, the third of which will only be put into effect if violence against Israelis worsens. Described as "the worst-case scenario", it would involve reoccupying six Palestinian-controlled towns in the West Bank and Palestinian-administered areas of Gaza, as well as disarming 30,000 Palestinian policemen in what diplomats believe would amount to an all-out war.

The West Bank towns which the Israelis intend to re-take if the security situation deteriorates are Nablus, Bethlehem, Ramallah, Tulkarm, Jenin and Jericho. Tanks were being positioned close to all of them yesterday, although the level of violence had dropped considerably.

By nightfall, two Israeli soldiers and a policeman as well as two Palestinians had been wounded in continued clashes, including riots sparked in east Jerusalem by the decision ordered personally by Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, to reopen the tunnel. Muslims allege the tunnel accelerates the "Judaisation" of Jerusalem's Old City, occupied by Israel since 1967.

"The tunnel has been around for 2,000 years. It will stay open," Mr Netanyahu told a cheering crowd of Christian supporters in Jerusalem. "It will always be open."

The Prime Minister, whose policies provoked a 20,000-strong protest rally by the left-wing Peace Now movement in Tel Aviv on Saturday night, added: "This tunnel is 250 metres, a quarter of a kilometre from the nearest mosque. We believe in the freedom of all three great faiths. That was, is and will always remain our policy."

As part of Operation Field of Thorns, West Bank towns housing hundreds of thousands of Palestinians have been sealed off from each other, effectively placing the residents under "town arrest". Strict curfews have been imposed on outlying villages. Huge troop reinforcements plus scores of battle tanks have been sent to strategic areas just outside the towns, with nearly 40 tanks dug in outside Nablus, the largest West Bank city.

Military officers said that the tanks had been reinforced by special military sharpshooters, who are already in place and would be backed by Cobra helicopter gunships firing rockets and machine guns in the event of an assault to retake the towns handed over to Palestinian control two years ago under terms of the 1993 peace accord signed in Washington. Stage C would also involve the mass arrest of Palestinians.

In what was seen as a pointed warning to the Palestinian authorities to restrain the stone-throwing mobs who have been attacking Israeli military checkpoints and remote Jewish settlements, Major General Uzi Dayan, military commander in the West Bank, told Israel Radio: "On Thursday, we activated this plan, stages A and B. The mission before us is to defend Israelis and vital lifelines in our sector, imposition of law and order with strong reaction to any violation and to any risk to Israeli security interests."

The Israelis' decision to publicise their blueprint for retaking Palestinian areas — a military provocation which Western observers fear could spark a war involving Syria and even Egypt — has added new urgency to this week's crisis summit on the Middle East in Washington called by President Clinton. It is understood that American officials have reported from Tel Aviv that the Netanyahu Government is in earnest about implementing Stage C if there are more mass attacks on Jewish soldiers and settlers.

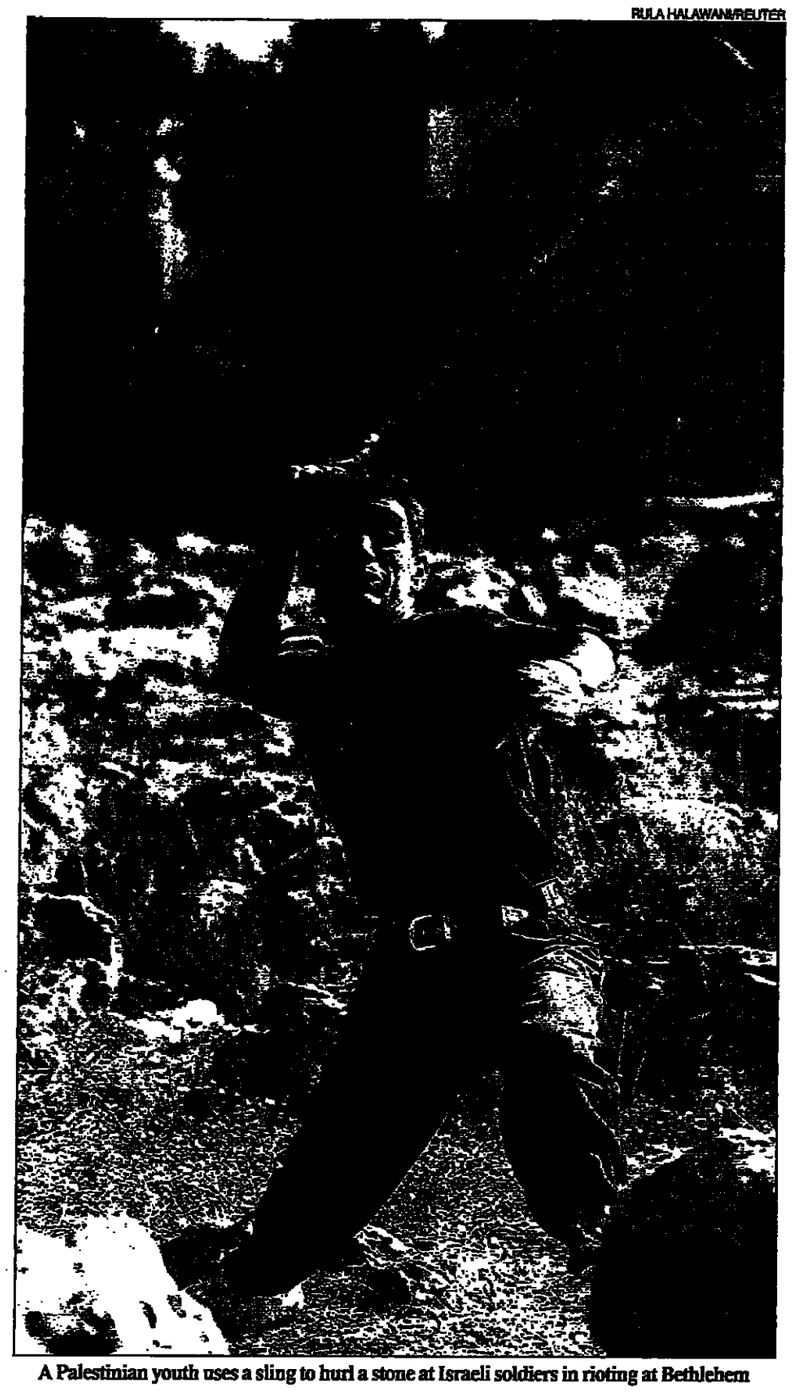
With nearly 30 tanks reinforced by dozens of armoured personnel carriers reported to be in place around the autonomous biblical town of Jericho, a senior Palestinian military commander, Major-General Abdel-Razeq al-Majaydeh, said: "The massing of troops is a provocative act and is not justified."

Israel's top soldier, Lieutenant-General Amnon Shahak, wrongly reported in some papers yesterday as being on the brink of resignation, said that the military situation remained critical despite the tapering off of last week's violence due to a re-straining policy by Palestinian policemen, who were earlier shooting at Israelis.



Israeli police reopen the tunnel yesterday

RULA HALAWANI/REUTER



A Palestinian youth uses a sling to hurl a stone at Israeli soldiers in rioting at Bethlehem

Threat of wider war at stake in summit gamble

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

COMMENTARY

THIS week's crisis summit in Washington is regarded by Arabs and Israelis as a necessary gamble. If it fails to satisfy Palestinian expectations, an explosion of violence much more serious than last week's fighting is feared.

Binyamin Netanyahu and Yassir Arafat will be facing the hardest test of their careers. It comes at a time when the Middle East is dangerously close to the brink of a new war which could drag in Syria and even Egypt unless swift diplomatic surgery is carried out.

Although intensive American diplomacy preceded yesterday's summit announcement by President Clinton, it emerged last night that no deals on concessions have been done behind the scenes. Danny Naveh, the Israeli Cabinet Secretary, said: "There is only one understanding — that we are going to Washington."

Mr Arafat has been insisting on the closure of the newly-opened second exit to the tunnel at Temple Mount as a condition of a meeting with Mr Netanyahu. But Israel has not given way.

"We all know that Netanyahu has to give Arafat something, but so far we have no idea what," said one reporter familiar with the Shin Bet intelligence service. The battles of the last few days had raised a bigger question over a date for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the contested holy city of Hebron, because of the doubts "about the reliability of the Palestinian police", he added.

Mr Netanyahu's influential communications director, David Bar-Illan, said that the delayed "redeployment" from Hebron — home to 450 Jewish settlers — could become even more problematic. Under the Oslo agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, signed in 1993, withdrawal should have taken place in March, but was postponed by the previous Labour Government after devastating Islamic suicide bombs claimed 60 lives in less than ten days. Now right-wing Jewish settlers and their religious allies are pressing for it to be put off permanently.

Mr Bar-Illan said that as a result of the "blatant attacks" on Israelis by the Palestinian police "we might now find it necessary to be doubly careful". He added: "Everywhere that the Palestinian police were present there was trouble, and to add another city [Hebron] to those where they are present, with their arms, is something that we want to reconsider."

Mr Bar-Illan's uncompromising comments were seen as a new warning light by the Palestinian leadership, as they indicated that the Netanyahu Government — despite promises to the contrary — was considering reneging on vital clauses of the Oslo agreement.

Mr Naveh attempted to inject a note of reassurance: "We must return to the negotiating table. We have no intention to renegotiate Oslo. We have an interest in ensuring the Oslo agreements are honoured ..."

Mr Arafat, who granted a rare 90-minute interview to Israel's biggest selling paper, *Yediot Ahronot*, to express his frustrations and his demands for the talks, said: "I believe that a meeting should lead to real acts and progress in terms of carrying out of the (Oslo) agreement. With Netanyahu, everything begins and ends with a meeting. I hope the situation changes."

Jerusalem flashpoint sparks new protests

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

ISRAELI soldiers and paramilitary police lined the narrow streets of Jerusalem's Old City yesterday to ensure that the Hasmonean tunnel that provoked the recent Arab-Israeli blood-letting remained open in the face of fierce Palestinian objections.

The large Israeli force drove away scores of stone-throwers who attacked the tunnel door when it was reopened on orders from the Government after a 48-hour closure for the Jewish sabbath. Senior Palestinian officials claimed that they had been given no notice of the reopening, which one described as "an act of war".

Most of the tourists who passed through the claustrophobic 500-yard tunnel, rediscovered by British archaeologist Charles Warren in 1867, were religious Jews, which increased Palestinian anger over the project.

"Jerusalem belongs to the Jewish people and do not let anyone say any different," Tzvi Zucker said after stepping out of the tunnel, which runs alongside the Temple Mount, sacred to both muslims and Jews, and on to the Via Dolorosa, the route many Christians believe Jesus walked on the way to his death. But milling groups of newsmen and security guards far outnumbered tourists.

The exit from which Mr Zucker emerged was reopened last week by Israeli workmen operating under cover of darkness. It provides a second exit from the tunnel.

Although Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, claimed the new exit had been opened to boost tourism, many bemused foreign visitors to the historic area yesterday appeared wary of it. "I hear the Israeli police opened it ... and it goes under the al-Aqsa mosque. The Arabs do not like it," said José, a Spanish tourist.

Despite the tension and street battles on the Via Dolorosa yesterday, elsewhere in east Jerusalem at the weekend there were some scenes of mutual sympathy. Palestinians helped four Israeli border police injured when their vehicle overturned while speeding to the scene of a Palestinian riot. Some of the Palestinians tended to the wounded men with water and other help before Israeli medical teams could reach them.

US remains neutral at the UN

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

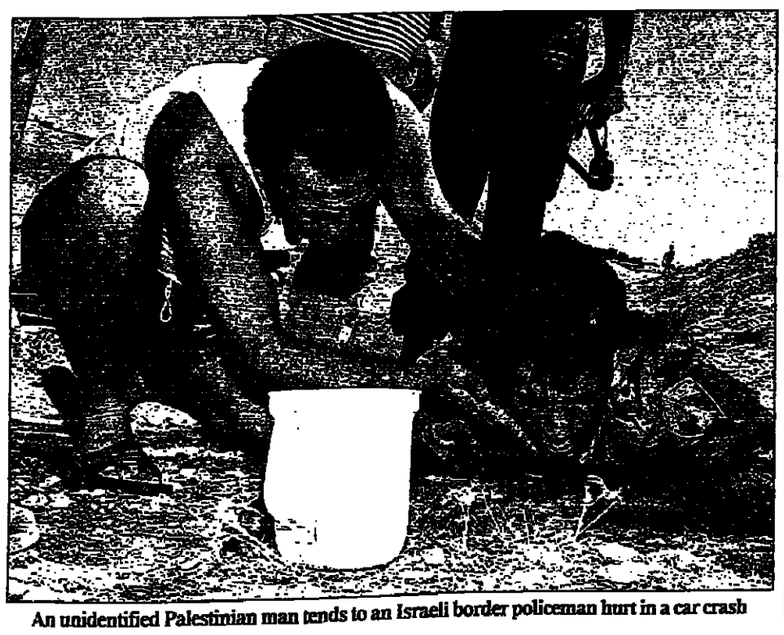
THE United States withheld support from a UN Security Council initiative to urge Israel to shut the controversial tunnel under the al-Aqsa mosque and to resume peace talks.

The Security Council adopted a resolution on Saturday night by a vote of 14-0 after a parade of visiting foreign ministers criticised Israel's rightwing government for constructing a second entrance to the tunnel.

The US abstained from the vote, even though it has also been critical of the opening of the tunnel and has called for renewed dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians.

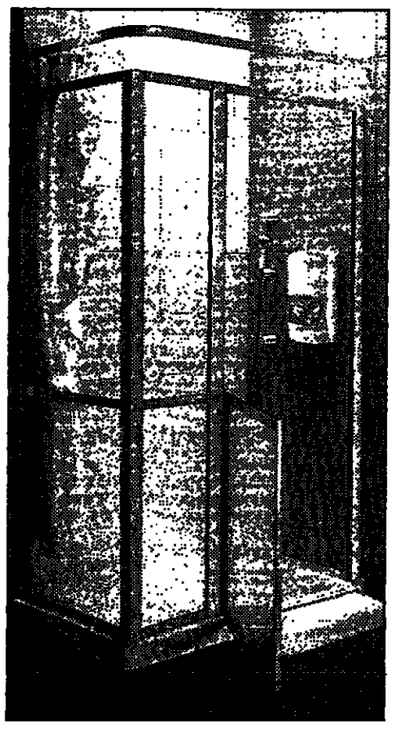
The resolution referred to the opening of the tunnel and "its consequent results", and called for the "immediate cessation and reversal of all acts which have resulted in the aggravation of the situation".

Any explicit condemnation of Israel was removed from the resolution after negotiations to avert the threat of a veto. Some diplomats had feared that America would use its veto to protect Israel, as it did last year.

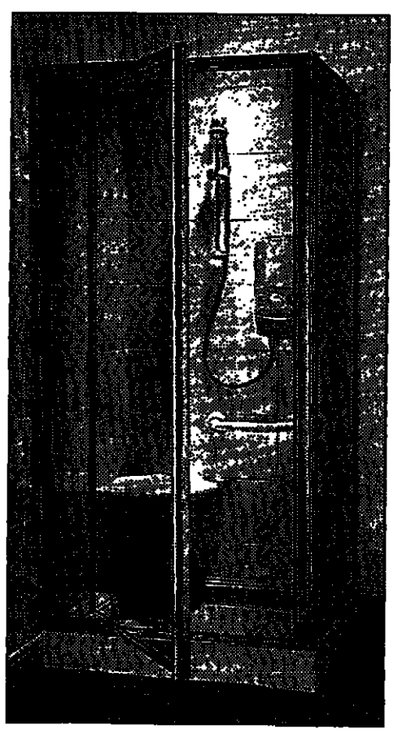


An unidentified Palestinian man tends to an Israeli border policeman hurt in a car crash

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SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

MAMMALS pay the price of greater brainpower by losing the ability to repair damage to their central nervous system after injury, a team from the Weizmann Institute in Israel believes. Thousands of people every year are paralysed after spinal injuries — but if they were fish, the chances are that the nerves would regenerate.

Somewhere along the line of evolution, mammals have lost the ability to make good any damage done, but only in the central nervous system. The peripheral nervous system can repair itself, a discrepancy that the Weizmann team has used in a series of experiments that may hold out long-term hope for spinal-injury victims.

Professor Michal Schwartz and colleagues argue that the ability to repair tissues is linked to the recruitment of cells called macrophages, mobilised by the immune system after injury. These cells swarm to the site, removing damaged cells and releasing substances that promote healing. Except, that is, if the damage lies in the brain or central nervous system: then, something blocks the macrophages and prevents repair taking place.

Writing in *FASEB Journal*, a publication of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, the team argues that it is the complexity of the mammalian brain that has led to this protection against macrophages. Without some sort of barrier, the cells of the immune system might invade the brain constantly and remodel it during life, disrupting the complex network of connections that represent memory and the ability to think.

"There seems to be an evolutionary trade-off," suggests Professor Schwarz. "Higher animals protected their central nervous systems from invasion by the immune system, but paid the price of forfeiting their ability to regenerate nerves. Thus an evolutionary advantage that protects the healthy brain turns into a disadvantage in the case of injury."

It may, however, be possible to overcome the obstacle to repair by turning back the evolutionary clock. In their experiments the team attempted to repair damage to the optic nerves of rats by removing macrophages and "educating" them outside the body. They took rat macrophages and incubated them with material from injured sciatic nerve, which forms part of the peripheral nervous system and has retained the ability to repair itself.

Then they put the macrophages back into the injured optic nerves of the rats. The result was to persuade the nerves to regrow, though the team has yet to show that any rats actually regained their sight. That will be the next stage of the research.

"Macrophages may be the missing link in the process of wound-healing in the central nervous system," says Professor Schwartz. The procedure might be developed into a treatment for repairing central nervous system injuries, particularly to restore movement in cases of spinal injury. Development may take years and is likley to be of benefit only if used immediately after the injury.

European satellite runs out of money



A SATELLITE originally intended to last for three years will finally be shut down today after more than 18 years. The International Ultraviolet Explorer (IUE) has been a great success, but the European Space Agency can no longer find the money to go on operating it. "It is sad to be closing down something still producing solid science year in, year out," says Professor David Southwood, of Imperial College in London.

IUE was a British idea, from Professor Bob Wilson, at Culham Laboratory, in the 1960s. Launched in 1978, it has made more than 100,000 observations of objects that include planets, comets, and distant stars. This year, despite a gyroscope failure in March which left the satellite with only one gyro functioning out of the original six, it was able to produce five-hour exposures of Comet Hyakutake.

IUE will not be coming down in a hurry. Its very high orbit, between 42,000 and 26,000 kilometres above the Earth, should ensure a lengthy if silent retirement in space.

Why do females fall for show-offs?



IN many species, it is the brightest coloured males which attract the most interest among females. But what exactly do the brilliant colours indicate? Most biologists would say that the females are working on the assumption that outward show is evidence of inner fitness. The most colourful mate is also the most likely to give them healthy offspring.

The thesis gets new support from a study of Trinidadian guppies, a species of fish. Jean-Guy Godin, of Mount Allison University, New Brunswick, Canada, and Lee Alan Dugatkin, of Louisville University, Kentucky, put guppies and predator fish in a tank, separated by a clear screen, and watched how the male guppies behaved when there were females present.

The brighter ones made more approaches to the predators, yet also got away faster, they report in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. So, despite their high visibility, they seem well able to look after themselves and by choosing them the females are also getting the best.



REUTER

Scientists are beginning to believe that surviving a disaster — as did these *Estonia* passengers — may be shaped by more than just luck

Living to tell the tale

What distinguishes a victim from a survivor? **Anjana Ahuja** on a theory which suggests that some people are natural-born fighters

You are doing what millions of people do every year — sitting on an aircraft. People jostle around you, shoving more than their quota of hand luggage in the overhead lockers. Smiling air hostesses walk around like teachers, casting watchful eyes over laps and forcing reclining chairs into an upright position.

Then, as you rumble down the runway, your world judders to a halt and melts into a scene from Hell. Black smoke is everywhere, the plane is disintegrating and screams rip through the air. Do you sit still and wait to be rescued as people drop like flies around you? Or do you develop tunnel vision and focus on the chink of light near the exit, which you quickly realise may be the only way to emerge alive?

When disaster strikes, good fortune and a knowledge of emergency protocol may dictate whether or not you live to tell the tale. However, equally compelling are the tales of survivors who have fought like tigers to remain alive while others have perished around them. By interviewing people who have survived air crashes, ferry sinkings and other disasters, scientists are beginning to suspect that our chances of survival may be shaped by more than just luck. They are even beginning to wonder if there may be such a phenomenon as a natural-born survivor.

Paul Barney knows from personal experience that people respond differently to the same adversity. He survived the *Estonia* ferry disaster in September 1994, in which 852 people died. Mr Barney, 37, had been dozing in the canteen when the ship began to list after losing its bow doors.

"A jolt woke me up, probably the sound of the bow doors hitting the hull," he recalls. "I realised the ship was listing and I knew that ships that big shouldn't list." His overwhelming reaction was one of rage: "I remember feeling angry that I was going to be killed before my time."

He was also struck by the reactions of others: "There was a group of about five people just sitting there not doing anything. They looked as if they were waiting for someone else to tell them what to do.

"Well, I'm not like that. I'm self-employed, single-minded, independent and not afraid to make decisions myself." Guided by his instincts and fuelled by a surge of adrenalin, Mr Barney, who features in an *Equinox* documentary on survival, managed to clamber up some pipework onto the outside of the ship and find his way to a life raft. Although he fell in the water several times, he fought off hypothermia while many around him succumbed.

According to a fascinating theory, Mr Barney may well owe his life to his independent nature. But how? The chain of reasoning starts with Hans Eysenck, the psychologist famed for his deconstruction of human personality.

Professor Eysenck reduced the human personality to three core traits — Psychoticism (P), Extroversion (E) and Neuroticism (N). Sometimes a fourth trait, Introversion (I), the opposite of extroversion, is added to the list. Someone with a high P-level would be regarded as antisocial and, in rare cases, psychotic. A high E-level would indicate vivacity. A high N-level would indicate a neurotic personality.



Single-minded: Paul Barney

"If you are in a disaster, it is not a good idea to be highly neurotic," says Professor Jeffrey Gray, who heads the psychology department at the Institute of Psychiatry at the University of London, and is trying to uncover the underlying brain system — and ultimately the genes — governing anxiety. "You might panic and freeze, which would not put you in the best position to escape." He also points out that among survivors, those with introverted and neurotic dispositions are more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder.

On the other hand, high P-levels would be a blessing in a crisis. "This is the quality that unites a good SAS trooper with a bank robber," Professor Gray says. "They are risk-takers and care little about the effects of their behaviour on others. They focus on their own needs and are not distracted by the needs of others, which is good for survival."

> 'Some people can survive things that will kill others'

Professor Marvin Zuckerman, an American scientist from Delaware University, has been bolder in trying to explain survivors' characteristics. He has related the Eysenck traits to chemicals secreted in the brain. He correlates P-levels with dopamine, the neurotransmitter released when we actively pursue a goal — finding an escape route from a burning building, for example.

I-levels are established by serotonin, which acts as a brake on that behaviour and therefore inhibits escape. So a person with high P-levels and low I-levels is most likely to quickly grasp that he is in danger and to formulate an escape.

Another theory attributed to Professor Zuckerman is that survivors have naturally low levels of monoamine oxidase, an enzyme which neutralises these neurotransmitters. This implies that once their sense of danger is alerted, it remains for longer. The enzyme also dampens the effect of noradrenalin, which, along with adrenalin, is released in times of stress. So the lower your enzyme level, the longer you can "keep running".

Dr John Leach, a survival psychologist at Lancaster University, is also trying to work out what distinguishes a victim from a survivor. He has chosen to approach the subject from a fresh direction: what turns people into victims?

By looking at patterns of behaviour in a disaster — which are curiously consistent — Dr Leach estimates that one in ten people will display classic "victim" characteristics such as hysteria, paralysis and weeping. Fifteen per cent of people will keep a cool head, devise an escape plan and follow it through. The remainder will try to look for further information.

According to Dr Leach, the 15 per cent who remain calm perceive a threat quickly and can move their brains into cognitive overdrive to work their way out of a crisis. The evidence for this theory is strong — survivors often report distorted perception such as narrowed vision, and cannot recall smells and sounds associated with their escape. "The brain is a signal processor of limited capacity, so everything that is not crucial to immediate survival is blocked out," Dr Leach says.

Another common feature of survivors' accounts is the sensation of surrounding events unfolding in slow motion, as in a film. He has a handy answer for this, too: "If your brain has speeded up, your environment will seem slower in comparison."

From this observation, Dr Leach is convinced that the 10 per cent of us who cannot get our brains into survival gear are suffering from "cognitive dysfunction". He calls it, starkly, "the will to die".

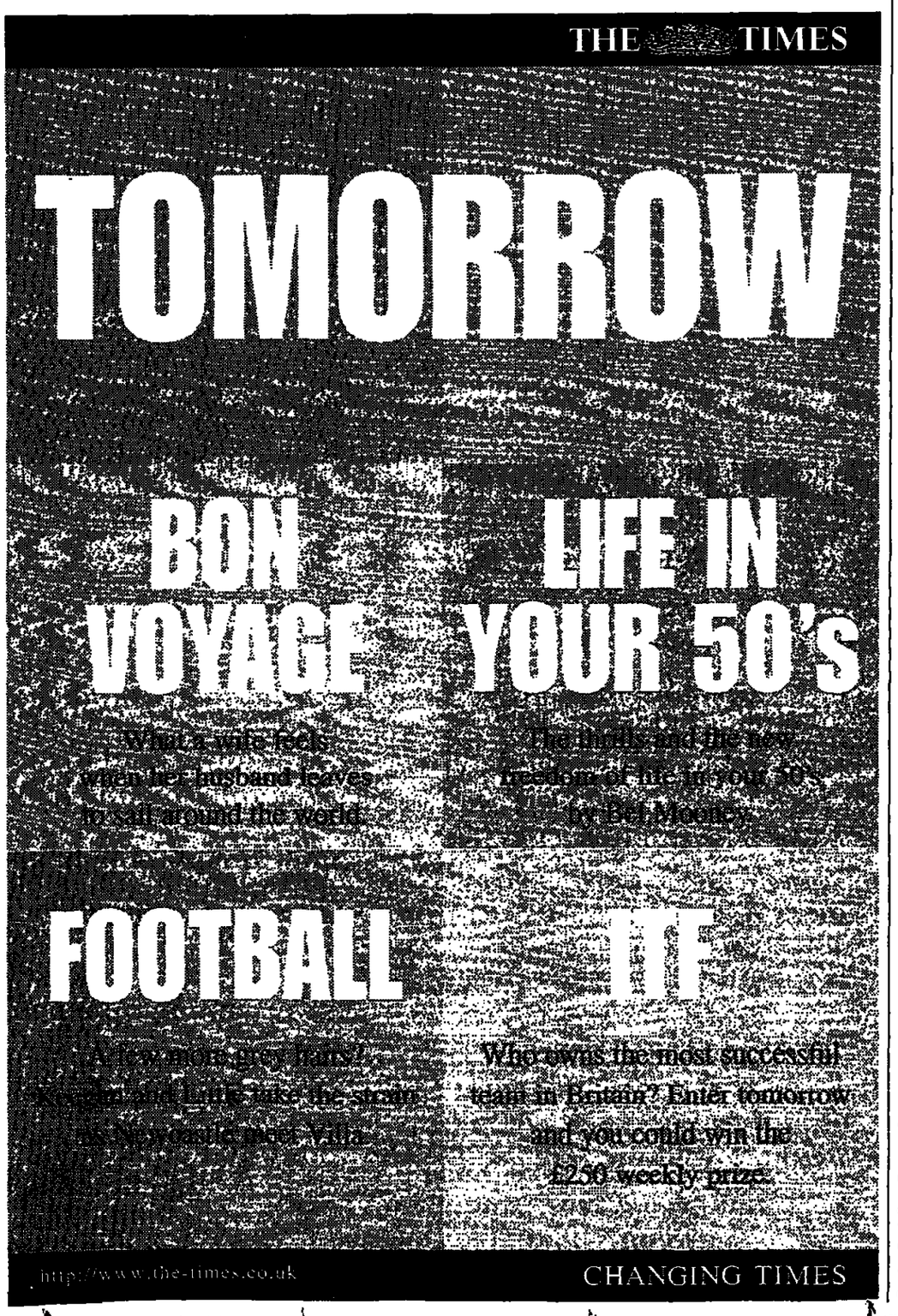
"I think that some people have a cognitive mechanism, which can be triggered in certain situations, that leads to death," he says. "It is clear that some people can survive horrendous things that will kill others. They won't do anything to help themselves."

Dr Leach is trying to understand the nature of this dysfunction by testing how efficiently people under duress can carry out cognitive tasks, such as adding numbers which are shouted out to them in quick succession.

What, apart from morbid fascination, is the point of studying who may survive and who may not? Dr Leach, who has debriefed survivors of many disasters, is adamant that being able to forecast how people will react to a disaster could save lives.

"If we can can seriously model what goes on in people's brains, we have the power to predict. Then we can start doing something."

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The death of a party man

Millions died in Stalin's purges. Boris Bibikov, a dedicated Communist from Ukraine, was shot for crimes against the State. Owen Matthews went to Kiev in search of his grandfather's file and the truth behind his execution

My mother's earliest memory is of a December night in 1937 in Chernigov, Ukraine, when she, aged three-and-a-half, and her sister Lenina, 12, were woken by the sound of their mother bursting into their bedroom, screaming. Armed men in the uniform of the People's Commisariat for Internal Affairs (the NKVD, predecessor of the KGB), dragged the three of them into the hall, down to the street and into separate police cars. As their mother, Martha, was driven away, Lenina and Ludmila struggled free and vainly ran after the departing car. The soldiers caught them and drove them to the Simferopol children's prison as the children of an enemy of the people.

They were not to see their mother again for 11 years. Their father, unknown to them, had been executed in Stalin's great purge, and buried in a mass grave somewhere near Kiev. Lenina and Ludmila were to spend their childhood years in children's prisons and orphanages. It was only in 1956, when their father was officially rehabilitated, that they were informed of his death; they had been told his sentence had been "ten years without the right of correspondence". The files are still classified as top secret, and it was only in December 1995 that the Ukrainian Security Service finally gave permission for me to examine them, thanks to a new law that allows close relatives the right of access. The truth, or at least as much of it as survives in the NKVD files, has come to light at last. Whatever now remains unknown has died with the witnesses.

Martha Bibikov's arrest came five tense months after her husband, Boris Lvovich Bibikov, party secretary of the Chernigov region of the Ukraine, had been arrested on July 27, 1937, while on holiday. It was a dangerous time to be a party official. By the time the great purge's momentum slowed at the beginning of 1938, the whole Ukrainian politburo had been shot or put in labour camps. Only three of the 102 members of the Ukrainian Party's Central Committee survived, and 80 per cent of the Writers' Union were killed, as well as every one of the provincial secretaries — including Boris Bibikov.

The night after his arrest in July 1937, the NKVD came to search his four-room flat, leaving all the rooms except the kitchen and bathroom sealed. Martha and the children were left with nothing but the clothes that had been left drying over the bathtub. The next morning she wrung out a wet dress and ran to the NKVD office. She was told that her husband was under arrest for anti-Soviet activities, and that she would be informed of the progress of the investigation. Shocked, she sent her eldest daughter Lenina to relatives in Moscow to find out more. There, my grandfather's brother, Ivan, managed to arrange for himself and his 12-year-old niece to have a meeting in the Lubyanka with an NKVD general, Lavrenti Pavlovich Beria.

"We were led into a giant, darkened study," recalled Lenina, now 70. "There was one light burning on a large oak desk, behind which I could see a small man with a bald head and small round glasses. I was frightened because he looked like a gnome. He asked my uncle what we wanted. My uncle replied that his brother had been arrested. Beria pressed a button under his desk and called for the file. He looked at it for a moment, said 'Razberemsya' (We'll sort it out), and sent us away."

The file, the all-important file. It was, by the time Beria saw it, like a tumour swelling with its fatal contents, that within eight weeks were to bring about the death of its subject. When I opened its brown cardboard cover, disintegrating with age, more than 57 years later on a grey morning in a dingy office in the former KGB building in Kiev, it had lost none of its chilling potency.



Ludmila, left, and Lenina Bibikov in 1938

> Just three pounds of paper was the equal of one human life

It is a compilation of the absurdly petty (confiscation of party card, confiscation of a Browning automatic and 23 rounds of ammunition, confiscation of Lenina's Young Communist holiday trip) and the starkly shocking: long confessions, written in microscopic, crabbed writing, covered in blotches and written under torture. The formal accusation is signed by Stalin's chief prosecutor, Andrei Vyshinsky, the badly mimeographed form with the scribbled signature verifying that the sentence of execution has been carried out.

Papers, forms, notes, receipts, all the paraphernalia of a nightmarish, self-devouring bureaucracy. It sat heavily in the lap, dusty and eerily malignant; three pounds of paper that equalled one human life.

Bibikov was condemned to death by a closed session of the Military Collegium in Kiev on October 13, 1937, under the infamous Article 58 of the Soviet Criminal Code, which covered "any act designed to overthrow, undermine or weaken the authority of the workers' and peasants' Soviets". He had been a true Communist. A party member since the age of 21, he had received the Order of Lenin (the Soviet Union's highest decoration) for his part in building the Kharkov Tractor Factory (KhTZ), one of the flagships of Stalin's industrialisation drive. When his first daughter was born in 1925 he named her after his hero, Lenin.

Yet he confessed. He confessed abjectly, in writing, to crimes against the Soviet Union; sabotage of the factory he helped to build, recruitment of Trotskyite agents, propaganda against the State. He admitted that he had betrayed the party to which he had devoted his life.

The first confession is dated August 14, 1937; 19 days after his arrest. It was a long time to hold out. Robert Conquest, in his book *The Great Terror*, describes the infamous NKVD "conveyor", a method of interrogation which, unless the accused died, was almost guaranteed to secure a confession within one week. Prisoners would be interrogated continually by teams of investigators, deprived of food and sleep, harangued, beaten and humiliated until they signed or wrote their confessions. My grandfather broke in the end, like all the others.

"At the Kharkov Tractor Factory we decided to sabotage an expensive, complicated machine that was crucial to the production of wheeled tractors . . ." he wrote in blotted, tiny writing in his third and last detailed confession. "We persuaded engineer Kozlov to leave a tool in the machine so that it would be broken for a long period. The machine alone cost 40,000 in gold and is one of only two in the whole country. Our evil counter-revolutionary act was averted only by the vigilance of senior engineer Ginzburg. This is how I betrayed my party. Bibikov."



Boris Bibikov, who received the Order of Lenin, and his death certificate, giving the cause of death as "shot"

There was one part of the file that was closed to me. Thirty-odd pages of the rehabilitation section were wrapped in paper and taped together. After much insistence on my part, I finally got permission to open the forbidden documents. They concerned the NKVD investigators who had dealt with the case. Even now, the Ukrainian Security Service was trying to protect its own.

When the case was reopened in 1955 on the orders of Khrushchev, dozens of witnesses who knew Boris Bibikov were questioned about his supposed anti-Soviet activities (all pronounced him a sincere and dedicated Communist). But the investigators could not be questioned, because by the end of 1938 they had all been shot. The purge, like its predecessor, the Jacobin terror after the French Revolution, consumed its perpetrators. Amazingly, the climate of terror was so intense that until the Khrushchev era, nobody dared to question what had happened to the millions of people who had disappeared. Lenina even wept when Stalin died in 1953.

> They spent their childhood years in prisons and orphanages

My mother, Ludmila Bibikov, after 14 years in orphanages, won a place at Moscow University after concealing the fact that her parents had been purged. In 1959 she met my father, William Matthews, then a young academic who was working at the British Embassy. They were separated when he was thrown out of the Soviet Union in 1964. After corresponding daily for years she was finally granted permission to leave the country to get married.

My grandmother, Martha Bibikov, went partially insane in the labour camp of Karlager in Kazakhstan. She was released from the camp in 1948, but spent the next year in exile near by. She married a fellow prisoner, a priest, and had a child by him, which died on the train as she was returning to Moscow. She died in 1983 in her native Crimea.

I met her as a child when she visited London in 1976. I recall vividly that during a childish game of cops and robbers I put a pair of toy handcuffs on her wrists, and she wept. It is only now that I have come to really understand why.

Mondays are bad for your health

INHALE deeply through your nose, and exhale through your mouth. Repeat five times. By performing this relaxation exercise, and simultaneously trying to forget the enormous workload waiting for you in the office this morning, you will edge yourself out of the danger zone. For there is no greater peril than the first day of the week.

According to scientists in America, you are more likely to suffer dangerous abnormalities in heart rhythm on a Monday or Friday than on any other day of the week. The finding supports the earlier known fact that more people suffer heart attacks on Monday than any other day. The study looked at 683 people who suffer spontaneous irregularities in heartbeat and clocked every occasion when the heart rate exceeded 214 beats per minute (the normal range is 60-100). The resulting weekly pattern peaked on Mondays, had a second peak on Fridays and dipped markedly on Saturday and Sunday.

The findings were reported in the current issue of *Circulation*, the journal of the American Heart Association, and led to this pearl of wisdom by lead author Dr Robert Peters. "Our hypothesis . . . is that, somehow, getting up on a Monday morning triggers this. It is tempting to speculate that arrhythmias are triggered by the stress of returning to work and perhaps by anticipating the end of the working week."

To most people, Mondays mean crawling out of bed for a stressful rerun of the previous week's trials. Is it any wonder that our hearts literally sink (and shake a bit)?

Worse, a dicky heart is merely one in a roll-call of nasty fates waiting to ambush you. Monday is said to be the worst day for car breakdowns, and Mondays and Fridays are the preferred days for suicides. Perhaps a flicker in your ticker isn't so bad after all.

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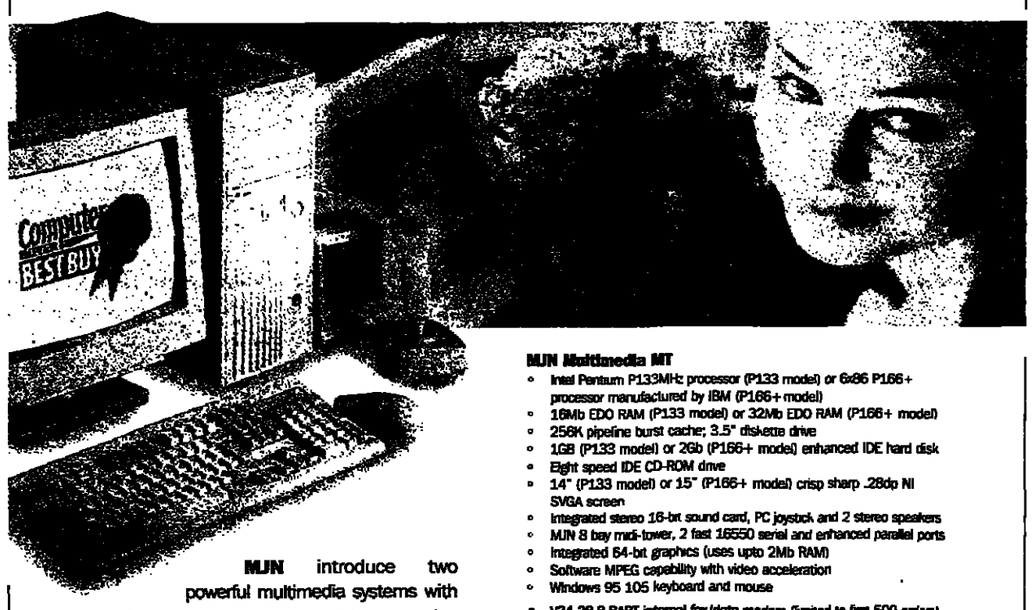
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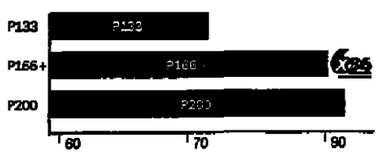
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As she approaches her fiftieth birthday, **Bel Mooney** comes to terms with the guilt of

'I didn't plan it this way — I wasn't supposed to get old'



Bel Mooney entering her second half century: "Most 50-year-olds I know would deny that you have to let go of anything. We cling to the wreckage."

I doubt if my 22-year-old mother heard the first handy hints for housewives on the new radio programme *Woman's Hour*. On the afternoon of October 7, 1946, she might even have felt the first twinges and been on the bus to Broadgreen Hospital with her mother-in-law. I was born on October 8, into the austerity of postwar, bombed-out Liverpool, into rationing — and a whole set of assumptions encapsulated by two facts. *Woman's Hour*, on the BBC Light Programme, with its "talks by experts on keeping house, on health, on children, furnishings, beauty care — in fact everything concerned with your sort of problems in the home"... was presented by a man. And nobody would have thought it odd that my young father had to discover the gender of his new baby by walking a long way to the phone box with his Dad and ringing the hospital. Birth was women's business.

The 1946 crop, the baby boom, was a good one. Cher, Susan Sarandon, Hayley Mills, Marina Warner, Marianne Faithfull, Joanna Lumley, Jane Birkin, Clare Short, Edwina Currie, Helen Mirren, Felicity Kendal, Sue Lawley, Alison Steadman ... and that's just some of the women. Malcolm Rifkind, Donovan, Maurice Saachi, William Shawcross, Oliver Stone, Jack Straw, Sylvester Stallone... all have completed half a decade, and some of us realise we have to let go.

But of what? Most 50-year-olds I know would deny that you have to let go of anything. We cling to the wreckage, ignoring the sharks, feeling invincible. A friend of mine said to me: "Our lot were the ones who 'never had it so good.' Then came the Sixties — which *meant* miniskirts and feminism at once! We had education and no worries about jobs. We asked questions and supplied the answers. Actually, we ruled the world. So we aren't going to give that up easily."

My generation was the last not to grow up punch drunk on television, to remember when public libraries thrived and were stuffed with books, not videos, and when the sexiest thing in newspapers was the *Daily Mirror's* Jane cartoon. The lovers of film stars were called "constant companions", and people like my grandmother (a dinner lady at Childwall Valley High School, where Alison Steadman was a pupil) would follow the doings of the Royal Family with reverence and love. At ten and 11 I could walk to primary school alone, and play on the swings after school without anybody worrying. Baby-boomers at State schools might be in a class of 50 (as I was) yet enjoyed a finer, richer, more rigorous education than most children today, including those in the private sector. Few people had cars, nobody went "abroad". Little girls in the early Fifties were dressed up in suits just like their mothers, and the most exciting event of the week was *The Ovaltinies* on the radio, and (later) *Journey into Space*.

But there was a sound around the corner that would banish *Family Favourites* forever. I tumbled into rock 'n' roll when Tommy Steele and Cliff Richard played Liverpool, and Elvis Presley and the Everly Brothers sobbed through my dreams. We stepped from childhood to teenage as the Sixties began, in perfect time to live a revolution in style politics and behaviour. In 1963 I bought the Beatles' first LP and the Rev John Robinson's sensational reappraisal of Christianity, *Honest to God* and decided God did not exist, but that John Lennon was right about divinity.

I hitched to a Stones gig, joined the Movement for Colonial Freedom and CND, shortened all my home-made skirts, read Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* — and lost my virginity. It all seemed so easy. The handy hints of old *Women's Hour* were not for girls like us. We were enabled: there were plenty of jobs, and those of us who went off to college or university knew we were able to play what Philip Larkin only glimpsed from his bleak high windows: "A quite unloseable game."

Getting old was not part of the life plan. Last year an older friend asked me what age I thought myself inside. "Thirty," I said, without hesitation. The person who walked around inside my head was forever young, sassy, flirtatious and wicked, certainly rebellious. She could slink around in leathers and do whatever she liked. Then, one bad day all harassed, I caught a sudden sideways glimpse of myself in a shop mirror. Horrified, I wondered: "Who is that hag walking around wearing my clothes?" In the summer, full of gloom at the impending half-century, I tried on the kind of clinging dress I once wore. But the flat stomach has gone: three pregnancies, decades of wine and vodka consumption, and little or no exercise have finally finished it. Miserable, I flung it back on the rail, then flounced into W H Smith to buy Rosemary Conley's *Complete Flat Stomach Plan*. It has still not been removed from its case.



Hand in hand: Bel with her mother in 1953

But show me a jar that promises to minimise wrinkles and renew the skin, and I will buy. Although I will never have a facelift, I pour no scorn on those women who do. We all cling at straws.

If getting old was not part of the life plan, what was? At 20 I'd have said: a couple of degrees, then lecturing and writing and getting famous, with (much later) a perfect marriage and three perfect children — none of which would interfere with the aims of independence and liberation.

But like many women I found that grand plans and personal impulses can clash. In 1968, just 21, I married a man I had known for only three months and finished my degree despite the sudden shock of domesticity. Since then, it seems, juggling has been my chief skill. As a young journalist my great love

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THE TIMES

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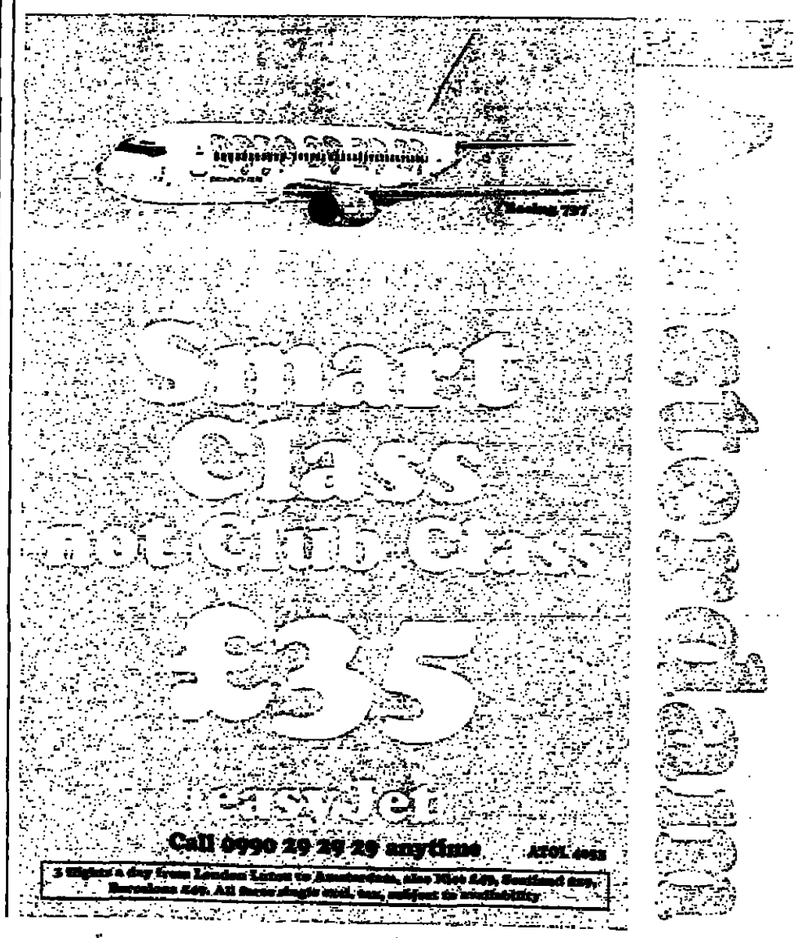
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CHANGING TIMES

TOMORROW



How I faced the fact of being 50 — and came to realise it can be fabulous



her free-wheeling generation — and decides to become a middle aged woman with *attitude*


SWNS




SWNS

Bel with daughter Kitty at the age of seven in 1987


SWNS

The ages of Bel Mooney: on the day of her wedding to Jonathan Dimbleby in 1968; with her son, Daniel in 1974; and Bel as a child in Liverpool in 1952, when little girls dressed like their mothers and played in safety in the street

was reportage: I wanted to "tell it like it is" with the *passionate, naive conviction* that if you expose evils and inequalities in a society someone will do something about them. But at 27 I had my first child, Daniel, and ended up writing the kind of short "think pieces" that keep you going, while the baby bobs in the rocker beside the table. The lowest point came when I covered suntan preparations for the *Daily Express*, and wondered what had happened to my fantasies of going to Vietnam.

In 1975 I had a second son, who was stillborn at full term, and his death made me feel (in a dark, primitive way) that I was being punished for my mistakes for not really wanting to be a wife and mother, even though Daniel was the love of my life. I would push him up and down the Kings Road in his pushchair, watching the punks, and chafe at the thought of going home and picking up pieces of Lego. We had a mother's help, but I had been brought up to think that children should be with their parents or grandparents. The truth was, I believed it too. I wanted liberation but not to be a lousy mother. The party had moved on, and I wasn't on the guest list any more.

In 1979, in bed for three months with the third pregnancy, I watched my husband conduct a debate on television. When he came home I was in tears. Concerned, he knelt by the bed and asked if I was worried about the baby. "It's not that," I sobbed in fury. "I just wish I could have done your programme." Our daughter, Kitty, was born with a rare bowel disease, which has meant 16 years (on and off) of hospital treatments and operations. We had other crises in the family. Our son had personal problems which led to him dropping out of university.

SOUTH WEST PICS



Marching with Kitty against road development

A year later, I became involved in a road protest, my husband made a TV film and published a biography of the Prince of Wales and we both came to understand the true meaning of punk journalism. My hoped-for career shift into screenwriting fizzled out. Unwittingly I moved house, last year, and thought I would go mad with exhaustion and frustration and grief for the old home of 16 years. The point is, I stumbled, stressed-out into my fiftieth year, juggling more frantically than ever, and allowing myself (for the first time) to complain. "This isn't how I wanted it to be."

Such lows force you to accept the shortfall in "perfect" happiness, and know that no game worth playing is unloseable. What's more, the end of complacency, the coming to terms, can act like a spark to a powder keg. Most days now I view the world I helped to create (privileged as a baby-boomer) through a mist of red rage. Young, I thought we could do it better. Older, I realise we didn't — and that perhaps our legacy is not just music and nostalgia, but a series of betrayals that have made this world a nastier place.

Leftist ideology and liberal laziness within local councils, teacher training colleges and schools betrayed millions of working-class children by peddling spurious "ideas" of equality, non-competitiveness and so-called self-expression, so that generations leave school illiterate and innumerate, and with no sense of order or respect for anything. It is as good a way as any of keeping the workers in their place. The baby-boom generation learnt by rote, and deprived others of the privilege of doing likewise.

Then there is the great betrayal of the idea of "freedom". Over the years, I have argued with my peers, the liberal intelligentsia, who regard the word "censorship" as a blasphemy (while not caring about blasphemy itself, of course), and thus colluded in the degradation of countless women and children in the burgeoning pornography industry.

Smart, amoral young film makers revere Tarantino for his undoubted cleverness, and will go to Hell declaring over their chardonnay that there is no proven connection between violence on screen and violence on the street. And out there, in the dark where they never poke their privileged heads, real people are imprisoned in a savage chaos.

> I stumbled, stressed-out into my fiftieth year, juggling more frantically than ever. The party had moved on

Television moguls betray their audience by serving them pap like *Hollywood Wives* in the guise of factual programming and pander to the lowest common denominator of grossness. Worse, newspaper editors coarsen their readers with a daily diet of prurience, lies and malice. "It's what people want," these media folk cry, falsely and insultingly, as they cook up some new justification for a further lowering of standards. The tone of comment is increasingly cruel and cynical, as if La Burchill, A.A. Gill and the rest were weaned on bile not milk, and breathe bitterness instead of air.

The thing is, most of the people with power and influence now belong (give or take a few years) to my "G-g-g-generation". Looking around, I don't find that something to be proud of. The betrayal of the electorate by a complacent Government too long in power, indifferent to poverty and ignorance and afraid of debate? The betrayal of the countryside itself by the construction of roads and out-of-town superstores and shopping villages with no thought of the future? And so on.



Together: Bel, the young wife, with her mother

The baby-boomers look back and say "we had it all", but the small voice inside me asks: "What did we do with it, except live for the present?" It is no good blaming Thatcher's Children for the mess and the misery, because we went before and showed the way. It was us who taught them the riff of *Me, Me, Me*.

This anger makes me free. In my forties, I retreated to an ivory tower, wringing my hands and saying: "Isn't it awful?" When I joined the protest against the Bathe aston By-pass in 1994 all that fell away, and I realised something truly liberating.

As I trundled inexorably towards 50 I did not care a fig what people thought about me. I was afraid of nobody — not burly security guards, nor politicians, nor second-rate hacks. I realised that there comes a point when you have to stand up and yell NO!, and that I would spend my fifties doing just that — middle aged with *attitude*.

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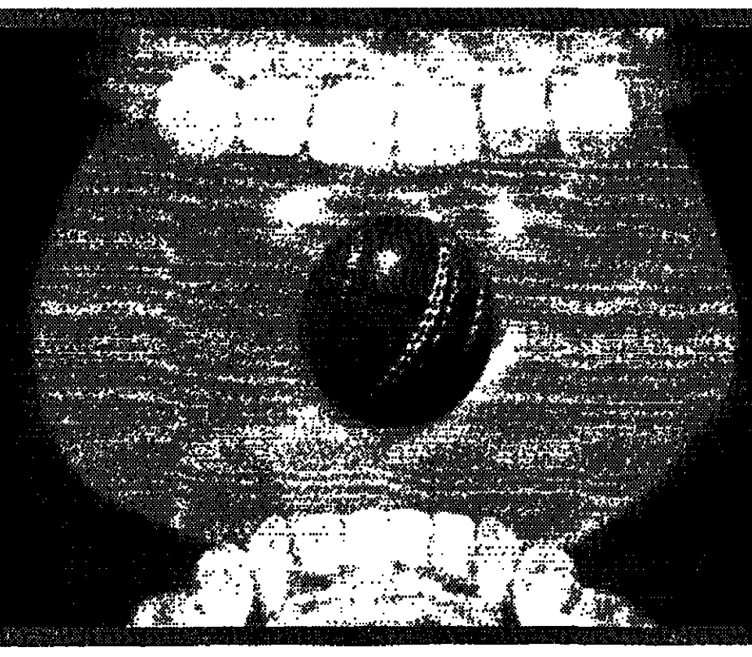


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REVIEW: Thursday



THEATRE

The irrepressible Ken Campbell comes to the Cottesloe with *Violin Times*

OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday

OPERA: Puccini in Cardiff and Massenet in London

Rushing through the real Bohemia

La Bohème
Cardiff

THE centenary of La Bohème has brought many reminders of what the work is not about, and anyone with feelings for the real thing will rejoice in Welsh National Opera's revival in Cardiff, soon to tour England. WNO's strength is its team of excellent young principals who act and sing with true ensemble spirit.

It is that spirit on which Göran Järvefelt's production, now revived by Rennie Wright, pivots. The staging is 12 years old but it remains at once newly luminating and true to Puccini. Michael Yeargan's designs update the action to roughly the period of composition, though that is hardly important: because the youthful high spirits that Puccini captures are universal, the period can be shifted far more radically without the work losing its special glow. What matters is the poverty which motivates the plot, and that is evoked from the start in the chilly grey-browns of the attic. Nothing is romanticised in the deliberately uninviting, sparse scenery, which helps to focus attention on a very uptight and head-strong group of Bohemians.

Most intense of all is the Marcello of Gerald Finley, making a significant role debut as the painter. His virile, lithe baritone has made him a good Mozartian, and here he gets his voice around Puccini's lines in the same musicianly way. This Marcello is characterised in warm-hearted depth, and even though his quarrel with Musetta hurts, he gives her as good as he gets. And from her entrance, Linda Tuvås's cheekily brazen Musetta demands attention. In her first role with a major British company, Tuvås discloses natural operatic talent, confirming the promise this Swedish soprano showed in student productions in London.

This double act slightly overshadowed the leading couple on the opening night. Rosalind Sutherland's Mimì made curiously little impression in Act I but came into her own in the strongly sung, soaring phrases of the third act and an affecting death scene. In his British debut, the Uruguayan-Italian tenor Carlo Ventre was a solidly voiced, compassionately acted Rodolfo. Not all his top notes were beautiful, but he had them, and he blended well in the ensembles with Neal Davies's Schaunard and Stephen Richardson's Colline.

Indeed, ensemble was good considering the break-neck speed with which Carlo Rizzi launched the opera. At times he was unrelenting, at others he found rubatos Puccini never dreamt of, but he steered the strong orchestra and chorus through a boldly theatrical performance.

JOHN ALLISON

DONALD COOPER



Carlo Ventre, Rosalind Sutherland in WNO's revival

Moments of magic

Werther
Barbican Hall

THIS concert performance of Massenet's opera was given under the Great Orchestras of the World banner and, allowing for a touch of promoters' hyperbole and critics' defensive double-negative, not entirely unjustifiably. The Orchestra of the Opéra National de Lyon is a very good band indeed: uninhibitedly romantic solo violin and cello, coolly eloquent flute and soupy saxophone. The diaphanous, fleeting string figures introducing the *Claire de Lune* duet were played double pianissimo and absolutely together — pure magic.

The conductor, Kent Nagano, favoured on the whole a fat sound picture and bold, four-square phrasing, but textures of shot-silk rather than rich velvet can pay higher dividends in Massenet. The word "retenir" did not appear to be in Nagano's vocabulary, and his *Werther* came dangerously close to the wham-bam-thank-you-ma'am world of the Italian *veristi* who drew such inspiration from their French contemporary.

And the "big" sound was not helpful to all the soloists. Anne Sofie von Otter is a fastidiously musical mezzo, but much of Charlotte's music lies towards the bottom of the stave, where her pliant, beautifully soft-grained tone does not always project easily. Her Letter Scene, *Air des Larmes* and Prayer — a formidably demanding triptych — were tasteful, sweet, not quite forceful enough.

But Jerry Hadley was on sterling form in the title role. His use of head voice, as uninhibited as the solo violin that introduced him, was as melting as it was authentic, and even singing full out his tone remained liquid and supple.

A French opera company would, of course, rather close itself down than be reduced to casting native singers in these roles, and while both Otter and Hadley sang in perfectly acceptable French, it was from the supporting singers that you heard how expressive Massenet's word-setting can be, especially from Jean-Marie Frémeau's genial Bailli. Gérard Théruel made the most of Albert's few lines, and Virginie Pochon was a bright-toned Sophie, one who could have made more of her third-act scene with accompaniment less wooden than Nagano's.

RODNEY MILNES

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** on the Young Vic's Lorca. Plus, a melancholy tale

DONALD COOPER



Couple in trouble: Jasper Britton (Leonardo) and Alexandra Gilbreath (the Bride) in the Young Vic's production of Lorca's classic *Blood Wedding*

Blood runs a little thin

When so much is right, how can so much be wrong? Lorca's *Blood Wedding* is, after all, a singularly powerful blend of tragic poetry and peasant prose. Ted Hughes's translation has as much sinewy strength as anyone could have hoped, and Adrian Lee's score has plenty of bold, brash moments. Yet I spent much of the first half, and even some of the better second, feeling I was watching a bunch of eccentrically dressed Sloanes performing scenes left on the cutting-room floor by the makers of a movie originally meant to be titled Five Weddings and a Funeral.

Nobody will deny that the play is a tricky one for British actors. Somehow they have to transplant us to a hot, arid Spanish outback where blood-feuds seethe on for generations. They have to make us feel that virginity is inviolable, marriage is sacrosanct, and someone who carries away another man's bride just after her wedding deserves to be hunted down and killed. They have to leave us believing that human passion, like a fire out of control, devastates whatever it touches.

Tim Supple has given us some fine things since he became director of the Young Vic, but his production passes none of these tests. How could it? A landscape described as consisting of "weeds, thistles, stones that come up from nowhere" has become a small triangular patio backed by a concrete wall. The lighting is bright without seeming hot. The faces on show have not seen the sun, nor the hands touched the earth, nor the voices (a Balkan one excepted) ventured far from SW1. When a woodcutter mentions the sound of the cricket, you expect to hear the thwack of bat on ball, so clean and well-bred are he and his chums.

Supple might reasonably reply that an ersatz primitivism would be offputting. If you try to gnarl faces or scar voices, you risk making both seem phoney. But almost anything would be better than a wedding feast largely peopled by nice bouncy kids who, judging by the orange make-up plastered across their faces, have just enjoyed an all-purpose treat at some jolly English theme-park. When the cast reacts to the disappearance of Jasper Britton's Leonardo with Alexandra Gilbreath's Bride by hurling chrysanthemums off the trestle tables, you are not watching outraged villagers running dangerously amok, only a little genteel hooliganism at the village fête.

All the main performers are of proven quality, but all would benefit from a week spent clambering barefoot up the Pyrenees in August with their worst enemies for company. They just don't rise to the emotional, physical or geographic occasion. The usually excellent Gillian Barge, playing the Bridegroom's mother, seems to have got her maternal roles confused. She gives us the grim, imposing Volumnia from *Coriolanus*, not a Spanish widow whose soul burns with anger, sorrow and the awful, acidulous memory of sons and husband murdered. Gilbreath and Britton have their pained moments — but where is the sexual electricity between them? Where is the dark fury of Hamish McColl, the deserted bridegroom?

Yet the verbal conditions could not be more favourable. Hughes's translation has a simplicity and curt force missing from the one on my shelves. Compare his "Nothing but grief, guilt and fire sweeping up through my head, filling my tongue with splinters of glass" with "oh, what lamenting, what fire, sweeps us through my head! What glass splinters are stuck in my tongue"; and there is no doubt which version is the more vivid and speakable. Meanwhile, Lee produces strange, disturbing sounds with the help of instruments ranging from the South American to the Indonesian.

But the mandola, didgeridoo, charango and khoomii cannot alone create the fierce, perilous feel Lorca wanted. Vital acting is rather more essential. And that, sadly, proves elusive.

Sad Irish cobblers

The Cavalcaders
Cork

HAVING taken a minor role in the original Abbey production of his *The Cavalcaders*, playwright Billy Roche moves to centre stage for the revival at the Everyman Palace, taking the part of Terry, the emotional black hole at the centre of his drama of love and close harmonies in an Irish cobbler's.

As the workshop that has been the setting for so much of his life prepares to tool up for while-U-wait shoe repairs, Terry is haunted by his past. Time spent with the now-defunct Cavalcaders, his old barber-shop quartet, drifts unbidden into his mind.

The melancholy mood of the piece is not, however, simply a matter of the demise of old ways of life. Sadness comes instead from the sight of a middle-aged man growing up far too late, his life already ruined by a hurt that should have healed years ago.

The central trick of Roche's play involves sliding grimmish realities of everyday life into register with the contrived scenarios of the crooner songbook. Love starts to fester, friendships crumble, but the sad songs, like Terry, refuse reality.

The real pleasure of *The Cavalcaders* comes in the second half when the author takes a hammer to the narrative, smashing it into a series of rapid-fire, overlapping fragments. When the intelligibility of any moment relies on shifts of lighting which turn out to be splashy and uneven, however, trouble ensues. In the current production, when Terry's past and present begin to intermingle, and ghosts and memories overrun the cobbler's shop, director Johnny Hanrahan's staging lacks the necessary agility to keep things clear.

In the role formerly played by Roche, Ray McBride achieves the kind of hirsute charisma that must by now be a type of sleepwalking for him, while David Ganley and J.D. Kelleher, as the final members of the quartet, keep things neat around the dramatist's peripheral vision.

The casting of the two female roles is noticeably weaker. Rynagh O'Grady as Breda, the thorn where Terry had hoped for a rose, is a wink or two shy of the understated confidence required, while as Nuala, the young shopgirl, Leslie McGuire more often than not misses the sweet spot between guileless infatuation and plain silliness.

LUKE CLANCY

POP: **Nigel Williamson** in poetic groove with Linton Kwesi Johnson and on a tour of Emmylou Harris country

From town and country

NO ONE has chronicled the struggles of black people in Britain more effectively than **Linton Kwesi Johnson**. His combination of poetry and reggae has inspired a generation of dub musicians in Britain and around the world.

In his only live appearance of the year he gave a black history lesson of the past 20 years. Who now remembers Blair Peach, the Special Patrol Group, the riots in Brixton and Toxteth and the suss law? All were commemorated at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Indeed, one of Johnson's song-poems is called *Making History*. He urges black people in Britain to be proud of what they have achieved but makes it clear in *Di Anfinish Revalueshan* there is still a long way to go. "Wi not reach Mount Zion yet," he sang.

Johnson looks far from revolutionary these days. He came on in a sober tie and jacket and read half a dozen poems, including a love lyric and a moving piece for a dead nephew. There was even self-deprecating humour in his *If I was a tap natch poet*.

Later he was joined by the eight-piece Dennis Bovell Band, who add variety to their reggae rhythms with flute and violin. It is when set against this music that Johnson's innate sense of poetic rhythm is at its best. He uses alliteration and simple rhyme to articulate the concerns of black people on the streets as part of a proud oral tradition of social comment. Particularly effective is *Sonny's Lettah*, a protest at the now-scrapped suss law in the form of a letter written by a young man to his mother from Brixton jail. *Dred Beat an' Blood* was also impressive.

In his newer material Johnson has begun to look elsewhere for inspiration. In Mi Revalueshanary Fren he heaps scorn on East European dictators and likens their demise to the ending of apartheid. Yet where is the poetry of contemporary black British struggle? Strangely Johnson does not seem to have written about the recent alarming number of deaths of black people in police custody and there was not a single mention of Michael Howard, not a popular man on the streets of Brixton. Johnson told his audience: "There is such a thing as British justice. But if you're black you have to fight for it." For two decades he has been in the vanguard of that fight. Long may he stay there.

THE current vogue for making stars of kooky young women such as Alanis Morissette who sing about sex and neurosis is never going to embrace **Emmylou Harris**. The silver-haired American singer, whose roots are country but who is now so much more, has her feet far too firmly on the ground. One minute she was sitting at a table in the Jazz Café chatting with her mother and some close friends, the next there she was on stage. The packed club took not a bit of notice until she began to sing. They had paid to hear her voice, not to stargaze.

There ought to be a law which says that for every big concert hall or stadium an artist should have to play three small clubs. It was a rare treat to hear Harris for three nights at this intimate Camden club when she can fill venues ten times the size.

The world is slowly waking up to the fact that last year's *Wrecking Ball* is one of the albums of the 1990s and easily her most innovative work to date, redefining the frontiers of country music to the point where such labels become irrelevant.

Harris writes little of her own material. Her consummate skill lies in discovering and interpreting some of the finest songwriting talent around. She played almost the entire *Wrecking Ball* album, giving new depth to songs by Neil Young and Bob Dylan, a heart-rending version of Steve Earle's *Goodbye* and an improbably beautiful rendition of Hendrix's *May This Be Love*.

Backed largely by the band on the album, the sound had a haunting sparseness, sometimes filled with echoing guitars which then fell back to end on a cappella harmonies. The effect was haunting.

Today the voice has a grittier edge to complement the fragility and purity which first made her a country star. There were nods to her past with *Love Hurts*, which she once sang so achingly with Gram Parsons, *Poncho and Lefty* and, inevitably, *Boulder to Birmingham*. But it was the new material that made the strongest impact.

Recent scientific research suggested that country music makes listeners prone to suicide. This audience left in ecstatic mood, but then these days Emmylou Harris is hardly country any more.

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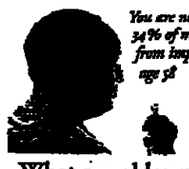
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■ OPERA

Veteran bass Richard Van Allan sings in the ENO's *Don Quixote* at the Coliseum

OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



■ FILMS

Hey, *Jude*: Kate Winslet stars in the new screen adaptation of Hardy's epic novel

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



■ BOOKS

Murky affairs in Central America are the subject of John le Carré's thriller, *The Tailor of Panama*

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Saturday



■ MUSIC

The great American diva Jessye Norman gives a rare song recital in the Festival Hall

CONCERT: Sunday
REVIEW: Next week

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Suite land of liberty, of thee I sing

DANCE

Birmingham Royal Ballet
Hippodrome

As David Bintley showed last season, his first as director of Birmingham Royal Ballet, he is not fighting shy of new choreography. And the triple bill which the company has unveiled at the start of Bintley's second season reveals a continuing commitment to expand BRB's repertoire, with two more world premieres.

For the first time, Bintley has gone outside the company to commission a new work — to the Canadian choreographer James Kudelka. Kudelka has a creditable career in North America where the slightly brooding sensibilities of his ballets have won him many commissions. For Birmingham he has made *Le Baiser de la Fée*, the Stravinsky classic at which so many choreographers — including Ashton (whose *Les Patineurs* opened this bill) — have had a crack.

Kudelka takes a literal approach to the Hans Christian Andersen tale of the Ice Maiden who kidnaps a young bridegroom on his wedding day, although his scenario plays openly with Stravinsky's idea that "the fairy's kiss" inspires even as it imprisons its victim. The staging is a homage to Petipa, with its pas d'action, grand pas de deux, and an ensemble of Snow Maidens used in the formal architecture of 19th-century ballet. As the Young Man moves towards his fate the choreography builds from its thin opening into an effusive and grand elaboration. But, for all its classical articulation, Kudelka's language is emotionally unconvincing and, perhaps because he doesn't know this company well, politely anonymous.

None of Thursday's first-night cast seemed particularly happy, with the possible exception of Leticia Müller's sweet Bride. Sabrina Lenzi's Ice Maiden lacked authority, and never quite seemed to grasp the nature of her obsession with the Young Man. Monica Zamora's Gypsy Woman was too coy to be truly alluring; Michael O'Hare's Young Man lacked a heartfelt sense of unwanted destiny. Nadine Baylis's ice-blue set looked most attractive on the Hippodrome stage.

So, too, did the outrageously vibrant designs for Bintley's new *The Nutcracker Sweeties*, with references to everything from Uncle Sam and pom-pom girls to candy canes and peanut brittle. The stage was buzzing with the snappy, neon vision of Jasper Conran (costumes) and Peter J. Davison (scenery); together they have captured the brash confidence of America and its cultural touchstones.

Bintley, for his part, has created one of the most entertaining ballets of his career. Set to Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn's witty jazz arrangement of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* Suite (given a terrific performance by the Echoes of Ellington band), Bintley's fleet-footed frolic is a clever and polished suite of genial dances. A red-wigged Monica Zamora is turned into a wonderfully slinky Rita Hayworth clone for her Sugar Rum Cherry variation; Agnes Oaks dons the world's longest green fingernails for her spiky Chinoiserie variation; and Joseph Cipolla and Chenca Williams have a whale of a time as a toreador and his lady in the buffoonery of *Waltz of the Floreadors*.

The cast lapped it up like cats at a cream bowl, and no wonder: Bintley has given them the tastiest of treats.

DEBRA CRAINE

DEE CONWAY



Silvia Jimenez as Candy Kane in David Bintley's *Nutcracker Sweeties*

LONDON

THE CAVE MAN The 60th birthday of the American minimalist composer **Steve Reich** is celebrated by his ensemble in their first British concert for three years. Steve Reich and Musicians will perform three of the composer's classic works — *Electric Counterpoint*, *Sextet* and *Drumming Part 1*. These are given with the British debut performance of *Nagoya Marimbas*, *Proverb*, and a new arrangement of *Genesis 100*, which forms part of Reich's epic opera, *The Cave*
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.30pm

GREAT BRITISH ORCHESTRAS Mark Wigglesworth conducts the **BBC National Orchestra of Wales** in what promises to be a stylish performance of Britten's moving *Sinfonia da Requiem* and the popular Fifth Symphony by Shostakovich. Cardiff Singer of the World Katarina Karneus joins the orchestra for Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden gesellen*
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm

VIOLIN TIME Another of Ken Campbell's amazing rambles around the world and into his overflowing mind, this time with music composed and performed by Teo-Wa Vuong.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SW1 (0171-928 2252). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 7.45pm. Opens Oct 2, 7pm. Then in rep.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

ELSEWHERE

BURY ST EDMUNDS The acclaimed Hull Truck Theatre Company invites you to a night out at **Shakers — The Musical** where designer beer and dazzling cocktails are served with a liberal helping of razor-sharp wit. Directed by John Godber, with music by Rex and Harvey Brough
Theatre Royal, Westgate Street (01284 769505). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm

COVENTRY The New Shakespeare Company rides into town with the rip-roaring musical **Paint Your Wagon** - some catchy Lerner/Loewe songs, including *I Talk to the Trees*, *They Call the Wind Maria* and, of course, *Wand'rin' Star*. With Tony Selby and Claire Carne
Warwick Arts Centre, University of Warwick (01203 524524). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm

LEEDS Opera North presents the first performance of a stunning new production of **Iphigenia in Aulis**, designed and lit by Nigel Lowery. Tim Hopkins directs Gluck's story of love, honour and submission. Sung in English, in a new translation by Hugh Macdonald. With Lynne Dawson in the title role, Neil Archer as Achilles, Della Jones as Clytemnestra and Christopher Purves as Agamemnon
Grand, 46 New Briggate (0113-245 9351). Tonight, 7.15pm. Then Oct 5, 9 and 11.

NEWCASTLE Anton Rodgers, Nichola McAuliffe, Barry Foster and Ian Reddington star in the touring production of **Blue Murder**, Peter Nichols's heady cocktail of black comedy and Whitehall farce
Theatre Royal, 100 Grey Street (0191-232 2061). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2pm, Sat, 2.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Art Connoisseur: Icon (0171-352 6744). **Brunei**: Empire of the Sultans: Ottoman Art (0171-637 2386) **Camden Arts Centre**: Barnett Newman: Prints 1961-69 (0171-435 2643) **Catto Gallery**: John Whitall (0171-435 6660). **The Gallery in Cork Street**: Recent Works: Robert Heindel (0171-287 8408). . . **Llewellyn Alexander**: Ron Bone and Austin Moseley (0171-620 1322) **National Portrait**: Literati: Photographs by Mark Gerson (0171-306 0055) **The October**: Voodoo Flags (0171-242 7367) **Portal**: Haydn Conner (0171-493 0706). . **Saatchi**: Young British Artists VI: Baseman, Coombs, Heath, Isaacs, Saunders (0171-624 8299) **Tate**: New Displays (0171-887 8000)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
▣ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **BLOOD WEDDING** Alexandra Gilbreath and Jasper Britton play the passionate lovers in Lorca's tragedy. Tim Supple directs a new version by Ted Hughes, with "hot desert" music composed by Adrian Lee
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6383). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat (Oct 26, Nov 2), 2.30pm. Until November 2

☐ **BODIES** Dinsdale Landen recreates his role of Mervyn in James Saunders's drama of former wife-swappers. The plea for living at extremes still carries conviction
Orange Tree, Clarence St, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

☐ **BUG** New play by Tracy Letts, with three of the Hired Gun actors from his brilliant *Killer Joe*. Another dysfunctional white trash family, this time from Oklahoma City, where the politically alienated like to go bombing
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Oct 19

☐ **CASH ON DELIVERY** Comedy performer Bradley Walsh in his first leading West End role. Described as a belly laugh about benefit fraud, written by Michael Cooney and directed by his dad, Ray.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm; mat Wed, 3pm

☐ **DIAL "M" FOR MURDER** Wife-killing thriller, written when phone numbers still included letters — and its old-age is self-evident.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.15pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

☐ **THE HEIDI CHRONICLES** Wendy Wasserstein's superficial (but prize-winning) account of a woman's experience of 25 years of feminism
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until October 5

☐ **KINDERTRANSPORT** Diana Quick and Jean Boht in Diane Samuels's moving drama about a Jewish girl who reached England from Nazi Germany but grew up in denial. Abigail Morris's production in the West End at last.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** Adrian Noble's much-travelled production now recast and in London for five weeks before another national and world tour.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm. Until October 5

☐ **THE ODD COUPLE** Neil Simon's play wears well, but Jack Klugman and Tony Randall really are getting on a bit these days. Last week.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat 8.15pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **SARRASINE** Bette Bourne, Beverley Klein and Francois Testory from the 1990 production are joined by Sara Kestelman in Neil Bartlett's fascinating adaptation of Balzac's tale of the last of the castrati. Music by Nicolas Bloomfield
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat (Oct 12), 2.30pm. Until October 12

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ☐ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) ▣ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) ☐ **An Ideal Husband**: Old Vic (0171-928 7616) ▣ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443). . ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ▣ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055). ☐ **Tommy**: Shaftesbury (0171-379 5399). ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

NEW RELEASES

DON'T FORGET YOU'RE GOING TO DIE: Self-pitying French portrait of an art graduate who tests HIV-positive. Written and directed by, and starring, Xavier Beauvois
ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647)

◆ **JANE EYRE** (PG): Decent but bloodless adaptation of the novel, with Charlotte Gainsbourg and William Hurt.
Barbican ▣ (0171-638 8891) **Notting Hill Coronet** ▣ (0171-727 6705) **Richmond** (0181-332 0090) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** ▣ (0171-435 3566) **Virgin: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LAST MAN STANDING** (18): Bruce Willis plays two bootleg gangs against each other. Fancy-looking movie pastiche from director Walter Hill
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** ▣ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ▣ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **MULTIPLICITY** (12): Michael Keaton clones himself to solve his hectic life. Crass comic treatment of a bright idea.
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426-915 683)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ▣ (0990 888990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

A SUMMER'S TALE (U): Vacationing student ponders female charms. Excellent diversion from veteran French director Eric Rohmer, with Melvil Poupaud and Amanda Langlet.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

CURRENT

◆ **ERASER** (18): Dishevelled Arnold Schwarzenegger vehicle, with Vanessa Brown, James Caan, and mayhem galore. Director, Charles Russell
UCI Whiteleys ▣ (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** ▣ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ▣ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **INDEPENDENCE DAY** (12): Aliens invade America's skies in this outsize popcorn feast starring Jeff Goldblum.
Odeons: Kensington (01426-914 666) **Mezzanine** ▣ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** ▣ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

An evening's hard labour

CONCERT

CBSO/Rattle
Birmingham

ANYONE courageous enough to open a new concert season with two works as long and as serious as Shostakovich's 14th Symphony and Bruckner's Seventh — whatever the motivation for lumping them together in the same programme — deserves all the luck there is.

Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra were uncommonly unlucky in losing first Thomas Quasthoff and then, at much shorter notice, the other soloist originally engaged for the occasion, Elena Prokina.

Masterpiece though it is, the 14th Symphony is an unremittingly bleak work — Shostakovich's equivalent of Mussorgsky's *Songs and Dances of Death*, but without the songs and dances — and it needs every advantage in presentation if it is to hold the audience enthralled through 11 movements scored only for strings and percussion alongside the soprano and bass soloists.

It would be idle to pretend that the solo performances by Sarah Walker, admirably professional though she was, and Michail Ryssov, expert though he is in the role, achieved the kind of emotive quality clearly aspired to in the original casting. Even so, the interpretation was authentically chilling in its scarcely failing vocal clarity and the uncannily meaningful execution of instrumental symbolism which is so often oblique rather than overt in its expressive intentions.

The sound of the massive orchestral forces of Bruckner's Seventh Symphony — with the overhead canopy at full height and doors to the reverberation chamber door standing wide open — was overwhelmingly effective after Shostakovich's chamber-ensemble restraint. But one has become accustomed to more sophisticated thinking in Symphony Hall.

Bruckner's Seventh is too big to accommodate in the second half of a concert which has already offered a large-scale experience. It needs its own space. Much practised though Rattle and the CBSO are in this particular Bruckner score, it also needs priority in preparation, if only to secure the appropriate frame of mind. It was not the most finished or most accurate performance they have ever presented, or the most arresting. They were thoroughly involved in it by the recapitulation of the first movement, and the Adagio was beautifully done, but by the middle of the Finale they were losing touch with it again.

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Matthew Parris



■ Politics with a giggle would increase the appeal of our parties more than any solemn conference

Conjure up the scene later this week. A low growl. A continuous base drone on the pedals of a massive wind organ: an expectant rumbling, full of . . . full of what? Hope or menace? A purple spotlight picks its target: a black space right at the centre of the dais — is it a pit? — flooding its edges in an eerie luminescence. Total hush descends upon the thousands assembled. No one knows what is happening.

Four trumpets blast a single note, and another, and another: a rising scale. This is the opening fanfare from Richard Strauss's *Also Sprach Zarathustra* — used in *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Suddenly there is movement within the spotlight's circle. But what? The trumpets are joined by the rest of the brass and the fanfare rises to its first climax.

Labour delegates are amazed. Nothing like this has ever happened at the Winter Gardens before.

Then the great roll of the kettledrums. Something is taking shape.

From the centre of the pit, the organ itself is rising. In the purple glow we see a man's broad but hunched shoulders. He is at the keyboard, facing away from us.

In a rumble of drums, the first crescendo dies. Then those trumpets again. The second begins. Above the platform, as the brass blasts its fanfare, a vast screen flickers into purple life. On it, magnified, is that image at the keyboard. Who is it? Thousands strain to see.

Kettledrums roll a second time. Do we not recognise those shoulders, that hair, those ears? Is it . . ? Yes! It is Tony Blair! He lunges manically at the keyboard. The whole organ on its flying platform continues to rise, cowering above the podium.

Now comes the final fanfare. Trumpets, brass, strings, woodwind, the whole orchestra rides in. Tony Blair, hands still at the keys, swings his shoulders round to face us. The fanfare climaxes. A thousand necks crane up at the screen. He is wearing a devil mask!

There is a moment of shock. At the last great chord Mr Blair rips the mask from his face, shrugs, and smiles. The purple spot dies. Daylight floods the Winter Gardens. The entire conference bursts into laughter. "Sorry," he says, "it's only me."

Then I vote Labour.

It won't happen, not in a million years. Yet I reckon, that for this alone, a million people would switch their votes to Mr Blair: the under-25s for a start, with whom Labour is having a serious problem. This section of the electorate, whom the party must have thought it had sewn up, are feeling mightily alienated by the churchy gentility of new Labour.

Paradoxical though this may sound, the appeal of what Leo Abse's mad new book *Tony Blair and the Politics of Perversion* perceptively calls the "Regenerative myth" ("New Labour. New Britain. A Young Country. A country reborn . . ." all that stuff) is to the middle-aged. By humour, he could reach the bit of Britain which, being young, is *not* interested in youth.

But it is not the young alone who would be impressed by evidence of a party leader who can make light of things. Many of us grow increasingly weary of the edginess and thin skin of our politicians. They just don't seem to be able to take it. Kenneth Clarke has only to feel the ladylike imprint of Anna Ford's elbow and Dr Mawhinney runs off squealing to John Birt: "Your Anna's bullied my Ken in the playground."

The Tories have only to unveil a couple of demon posters and Mr Blair yelps "Foul" and people scurry off to the Advertising Standards Authority to complain. Oh for a senior politician relaxed to laugh things off! To take an attack with good humour, besides demonstrating self-confidence, diminishes one's assailant. Were Mr Blair to make us laugh about that poster, we should be laughing not only at his joke and with him, but at the Tories. "How silly!" implies the joke, "Who do they think they're kidding?" If you greet an attack with a giggle, then far from looking juvenile you make your attacker look juvenile. The Tories would never be able to use the demon theme again.

> Oh for a politician who is able to laugh off the attacks of the media

So why don't they do it? Part of the answer, I fear, is down to us, the press. Just before he was dismissed after fuss about weekends in the Ritz, the minister Neil Hamilton, visiting a school, held up a biscuit and joked, "Perhaps I should have declared this."

I laughed. The press did not. So mindlessly obsessed have we become with "gaffes" and "banana-skins" that politicians have to be solemnly circumspect as they walk in fear of our headlines. Commentary has become dreadfully priggish, and a hawk-eyed sensoriousness is the order of the day. For senior politicians, every conference performance is rather like that pier-end game where you have to pass a metal ring all the way along a twisted wire without them touching — or a bell rings and you are disqualified. The equivalent of that bell is the shriek of "Gaffe!" from the press.

So with Mr Blair tomorrow and Mr Major next week, dignity will reign, the nervy, false dignity of the timid: po-mouthed and carrots up their bottoms. And, in numbers which increase with every decade, the nation switches off.

America has yet to make up its mind about the presidential election, but doesn't like either candidate

What's the issue? It's Clinton, stupid

The United States is suffering from an economic boom but a political depression. The economy is still fine and has been in prolonged recovery since the last months of the Bush Administration: Wall Street is at record levels — probably too high — and unemployment is about half the European average. Yet there has seldom been more widespread anxiety about the future of America. There is no public enthusiasm for the presidential campaign or for either of the candidates. The 1992 joke is being recycled. What the ballot paper needs is a box saying: "None of the above."

Bob Dole has always been a poor campaigner. One can remember years of him slogging through the snows of New Hampshire in the Republican primaries, making incoherent speeches on unpopular themes, and alienating any voters unfortunate enough to meet him. Now that he is actually running for president, he is repeating his old primary form. He is, in any case, a full generation out of date, a Nixon Republican in the post-Reagan era. It is as though the Conservatives were going into the next election under Willie Whitelaw, and much less enjoyable.

However, the Republicans have two weapons with which to fight Bill Clinton. The first is money and the second is Bill Clinton. The money will be spent on an awesome scale. This will be the most expensive campaign in the history of the United States. In October the Republicans will be spending $1 million on television advertising every day. There is something like $80 million in the central campaign chest for the Congressional races. The money will probably not be enough to elect Bob Dole, but it probably will be enough to maintain the Republican majority in both Houses of Congress. The balance of seats vacant and retirements is, in any case, favourable to the Republicans.

Bill Clinton has, so far, been well ahead in the polls, though in the latest CNN poll he has slipped to a 9 per cent lead, his lowest so far. The present poll situation may not be very important, since the American electorate has not yet engaged with the campaign. They do not know where the candidates stand on most issues; 40 per cent do not yet even know that Jack Kemp has been chosen as Dole's running mate. All that will change. In past elections, up to 40 per cent of voters have made their decisions in the last week.

There are two big issues about Bill Clinton. The first is whether he is a man of any character at all: the second, which obviously runs into the first, is whether he is any good at being President. Everyone admits that he is good at campaigning, and at that aspect of being President which has been termed the role of "Celebrity-in-Chief". The Republicans have been trying out character-attack television advertisements on panel audiences and are finding that they do not work. The American people accept that the President is a compulsive womaniser, that he probably did some crooked things as Governor of Arkansas, that he may have obstructed justice along the way, that he has had some very unsavoury friends, but they do not want the Republicans to remind them of these things. *The New York Times* found a typical voter in Arizona, Steven Blackwell, "a burly young steelworker"; he is thinking of voting for Clinton, but says "he has no morals whatsoever". A President without morals and a campaign without issues is the menu for 1996.

William Rees-Mogg

Indeed, it is the White House which has inadvertently done the most to publicise the President's little problems. In December 1994, Jane Sherburne, who is the Assistant White House Counsel, thought she ought to list the charges against which she might have to defend the President. This turned into a 12-page "task list," starting with 39 accusations, which she neatly listed from "Foster document handling", through "obstruction of justice", noting three examples, through "Lasater (bond deals, cocaine, Roger Clinton)" to "women". In August of this year this task list had to be handed over to the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, and from there it has reached the press.

Robert Bork, the nominee for the Supreme Court who was sandbagged by Teddy Kennedy, taught law at Yale to Bill and Hillary Clinton. He believes that this list of 39 articles includes material on which Hillary Clinton could be indicted and Bill Clinton could be impeached. Obstruction of justice is a felony. Bork will be voting for Dole.

At this stage the Republicans' decision is not to campaign on these character issues but on the presidential record. Bill Clinton is being accused of being "a closet liberal", to which he has absurdly replied that he is not, has not been and never will be a liberal.

The electorate is being reminded, and every American will hear this at least 50 times between now and polling day, that in 1992 Bill Clinton promised a middle-class tax cut and yet in 1993 put taxes up for everyone, by a total exceeding $200 billion. There will also be attack advertisements on one powerful emotional issue, his recent veto of the Bill forbidding what are called "partial-birth abortions". This procedure takes late-term foetuses, at a stage when they might be viable as babies, brings them to within a couple of minutes of actual birth, and then kills them by sucking out their brains. In law, if the baby has not emerged from the mother, that is abortion: if it has, it is murder. The advertisements will describe this gruesome procedure, and remind people that Bill Clinton overruled the majority in Congress who wanted to stop it.

It is said that the American electorate seldom worries about foreign affairs. That is not altogether true, since foreign affairs played a large part in presidential elections from the outbreak of the Second World War to the end of Vietnam, that is from 1940 to 1972. The Middle East has recently been dominating the television screens. There is a growing public feeling that Bill Clinton is too much of a compulsive conciliator to handle the brutal realities of world power. Americans admire toughness in a leader — Margaret Thatcher is the most popular British leader since Winston Churchill. Bill Clinton carries no handbag, even if Hillary does.

In yesterday's *Washington Post*, Jim Hoagland wrote a scathing column about the ineffectiveness of the President's policy towards Iraq, Palestine and Israel:

> Self-induced blindness has made US policy on Iraq a mess, not "an unqualified success". The White House's denial of this — even to itself — disgusts middle-level officials within the Government who know what has happened. The crisis in Israel again found Clinton on the campaign trail, being briefed by fax and phone while his aides clung desperately to policy levers which no longer worked.

High taxes, flawed character, feeblessness in foreign affairs, support for killing viable late-term babies, these issues give the Republicans something to work on. But I expect Bob Dole will muff it again.

Labour's benefit cost analysis

Barbara Castle's battle with Harriet Harman is old hat, says

Peter Riddell



The debate over Blairism always comes back to spending and taxes. Can a party of the Centre-Left reconcile financial respectability with radical aspirations? Many Labour activists, as well as Tory propagandists, believe the two are incompatible: that the repeated emphasis by Tony Blair and Gordon Brown on toughness when it comes to public spending is merely to win the election, and that they will behave differently in office, or be forced to do so.

But Mr Blair and Mr Brown mean what they say, however hard it may be to achieve. They have yet, however, to show how Labour would really make a difference in office without alarming taxpayers, business and the markets. That will be a central theme of Mr Blair's speech tomorrow.

The difficulty of finding the balance between restraint and expectation explains much of the recent discontent among Labour activists. The party's pre-manifesto, launched three months ago and debated this week, has so far not caught either the party's imagination or the public's. This carries the incidental risk that the subsequent ballot of Labour's members may be a flop because of low turnout.

The early pledges in the pre-manifesto — about tackling youth unemployment, cutting class sizes for infants, reducing hospital waiting-lists, and taking tougher action on young offenders — have been criticised as being marginal and dubiously financed through one-off financial transfers. Some of the pledges — about young offenders and getting 250,000 people under 25 years old off benefit and into work or training — are ambitious and address growing social problems. But there are still many doubts about raising money from a windfall levy on the privatised utilities.

The most important pledge is the fifth, which has been generally ignored: to "set tough rules for government spending and borrowing". These include curbs on the overall level of debt and the so-called golden rule for public spending, that over the economic cycle the Government will only borrow to invest and not to fund current spending. That commitment, also endorsed by the Treasury in the last Budget, would limit public borrowing to about 1 per cent of national income. Not only is this well below the Maastricht guidelines to do with qualifying for monetary union, but it is also less than a quarter of the current deficit. This is a very tight constraint, and if Labour means what it says, this would rule out any increase in overall spending if taxes are to be held down.

FIDDLE ON MONDAY

Despite continued Tory attempts to find new Labour spending pledges, Mr Brown has succeeded in limiting most new commitments. That is really what the row over pensions is about. When it comes to helping poorer pensioners, Barbara Castle is wrong to urge an across-the-board increase, and Harriet Harman is right to suggest a more selective approach. Their dispute vividly symbolises the clash between "old" and "new" Labour, and Lady Castle's appeal to the party's heart may win the cheers during Wednesday's debate, since the conference always applauds old troopers.

However, a classic exercise in old Labour expediency has probably settled the vote. A deal has been worked out by Mr Brown and Jack Jones, the pensioners' leader (who, ironically, was an old foe of Barbara Castle in the battles over trade union law in the late 1960s). The statement approved yesterday by Labour's national executive offers a review but gives nothing away — stating that the party "can and will give no manifesto or other commitments on finance for any decisions that could only be made in the light of economic circumstances".

So the spending line has held — and the modernisers argue that resisting the promoters of universal provision is itself an achievement, given past commitments. Mr Brown will argue in his speech this afternoon that his tough approach is justified in its own terms and not solely for electoral reasons. Only through such restraint will it be possible to achieve financial stability and to take action to help young people and begin welfare reform. A first Brown Budget, probably six weeks after the election, would retain existing overall spending plans from this November's Budget, apart from the action on youth unemployment financed by the windfall levy. So incoming Labour ministers would have to fund pet projects from savings elsewhere in their departments.

That approach, though a big advance for Labour, only partly deals with the question of how to meet the public demand for improved services without raising spending and the tax burden. Even to achieve its rather patchy record on taxation, the present Government has had to take highly unpopular social security measures — for instance, introducing the jobseekers' allowance and incapacity benefit — and to squeeze the public sector pay bill.

But Labour has opposed most of these measures and has yet to offer plausible alternatives. In that sense, the real debate is not between Harriet Harman and Lady Castle — that is a battle of the past — but between Ms Harman and Peter Lilley, over how to create an affordable welfare state.

Labour has edged towards the principle of workfare (imposing obligations on those receiving unemployment benefit) and targeted benefits. But after the fierce criticism of the plan for reallocating child benefit for 16-to-18 year-olds, the party is reluctant to provoke more controversy, especially as the Tories are coy about tackling middle-class benefits. Any new government will have to seek more private financing of public services, as is already occurring in pensions and higher education.

Mr Blair is a genuine radical in his aims for a five-year parliament: making a start on welfare reform, improving educational standards, achieving a more positive relationship with Europe, creating a new partnership with business and beginning to roll back an over-centralised State. He believes Labour could make a difference, as the Conservatives implicitly acknowledge in their slogan "New Labour, New Danger". What he has yet to demonstrate convincingly is how Labour could fulfil these hopes within admittedly tight spending and tax constraints.

Game bird

IT seems that the late "Colonel" Harland Sanders, the bolo-tied founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken and epitome of Southern courtesies, was both a leg and a breast man. Thighs, too, if one is to believe a biography of the old lad by his daughter Margaret.

Miss Sanders, aged 86, has composed a candid memoir in which she discloses that Col Sanders — whose title was an honorific — had a prodigious sexual appetite and kept a mistress. He succeeded in persuading his wife to hire the woman as a char. The suggestion led to domestic strife. "It was evident from the beginning that her presence would create turmoil," says Miss Sanders.



Harland: spicy hero

"Mother refused to accept that she alone could not satisfy father's physical needs, which from the very beginning of their marriage had seemed excessive to her," adds the daughter of the man who introduced the world to the saying "finger lickin' good". He later divorced his wife and took both her and his mistress to a presidential inauguration.

Miss Sanders's book goes by the title *The Colonel's Secret: Eleven Herbs and a Spicy Daughter*. It is likely to be read closely in Kentucky, which went into statewide mourning when Sanders died in 1980.

Such was his reputation at the time that he was hailed as the "preacher's friend", and the evangelist Billy Graham sent a personal message of sympathy. His body lay in state and he was buried in his trademark double-breasted white suit — no doubt with the traces of a smile playing under his snowy moustache.

DIARY

A Cracker

IN CRICKETING circles, Leslie Crowther's departure for the celestial pavilion is a terrible blow. The light entertainer and *Crackerjack* presenter was a stalwart: fervent supporter, charity side fundraiser and, though not especially distinguished at the crease, a telling player nevertheless.

As a former president of the Lord's Taverners — where he was succeeded by Prince Edward — Crowther was one of the first to be told of the death of Brian Johnston, the cake-eating commentator. "He was understandably very upset," informs my source. "But I explained to him that Johnners would be a happy man now, forever able to watch cricket." Crowther seemed consoled. "But if there isn't a cricket ground on the other side," he said. "I'm not going."

Good press

AN UNEASY tension hung over base camp at the Labour Party conference in Blackpool yesterday morning. John Prescott was about to be interviewed by John Humphrys for the BBC's *On the Record*.



The potential for error on the eve of the conference was playing havoc with new Labour's blood pressure. But there was no need to worry. John Prescott's performance was top-drawer. He ducked and dived, bobbed and weaved and managed to parry every Humphrys thrust.

Such was the relief after the interview that Tony Blair's office erupted into spontaneous applause. Minutes later, the champion himself shuffled into the office, grinning. The scene brought to mind a footballer mobbed and kissed by team-mates after scoring a winning goal.

Well guarded

AND WHILE Tony Blair was fretting yesterday about what John Prescott might say in his television interview, his constituency opponent for the general election was more concerned with domestic issues. Lizzie Noel, the Tory candidate for Sedgefield in Co Durham, was marrying Guardsman Henry Pitman in Chipping Camden, Gloucestershire.

Sitting in the family pew was the bridegroom's stepfather, Andrew Parker Bowles, whose ex-wife Camilla is so friendly with the Prince of Wales.



Lizzie and Henry: happy with a party of their own

Politics was thankfully not to the fore during the speeches, although one of the ladies confessed: "When she told us about the wedding, we knew it couldn't possibly be an October election. Lizzie would never have got married so close to an election."

● *Diplomatic relations between the Treasury and the Foreign Office are at an all-time low on account of plans to build a new Embassy in Berlin. The Treasury is insisting that the building be financed privately. The Foreign Office is quite appalled at the precedent. Frontrunners for the construction project appear to be Shirayama corporation, the unpopular Japanese outfit currently gutting County Hall, the former GLC building.*

P·H·S

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CONFERENCE DINOSAURS

Old activists still haunt new Labour's Blackpool halls

Like the tail-thrashings of a dying dinosaur, Labour activists and trade unionists meet in Blackpool this week to protest at a new world for which many of them are feebly adapted. Compared with most other aspects of the Labour Party, its conference is still unmodernised. It represents an opportunity to make the leadership sweat a little.

True, the trade unions' voting power has been cut progressively from 90 to 50 per cent. And in theory at least, trade union delegates are free to vote individually; in practice most unions vote as a bloc. Delegates from the constituency parties are not elected by one-member-one-vote. And they often arrive with their minds made up on each motion, having been mandated in advance by their general management committees.

In which case, why bother to hold debates? The votes have mainly been sewn up in squalid backroom deals. Delegates are not going to be swayed by argument. And anyway, given that, for many years predating Tony Blair's arrival, the party leadership has taken scant notice of conference decisions, nothing is even gained by rebellion save the satisfaction of expressing discontent and the concomitant bad publicity.

But the dying throes will nonetheless be seen this week, not least from Baroness Castle, a Velociraptor so ancient that she can be dated back to the Wilson era. Her call for pensions to be linked to earnings again and for the state earnings-related pension scheme (Serps) to be reinstated has not even the benefit of ideological rectitude. Poor pensioners already have their pensions topped up with income support. Lady Castle's proposals would benefit the wealthy old more than the impoverished.

But if delegates defeat the leadership on pensions or any of the other controversial questions of the week, it will represent more of a protest at Mr Blair's culture and manner of leadership than an ideological battle. And some constituency activists have found the pace of change in the party too fast to stomach. All feel (probably mistakenly) that Labour's huge poll lead insulates them from the consequences of their actions.

Ironically, that very lead is a result of Mr Blair having moved as far and as fast as he has. The difficult decisions that he has taken may have made him unpopular with some factions in his party, but they have also brought Labour creakingly close to being a late 20th-century party at last. Each decision, though, has been a gamble: the risk being that public appreciation for his reforms would be overwhelmed by dismay at the internal divisions they create. Because he is so far ahead in the polls, Mr Blair has been able to take those risks.

The aim is not simply to win the election, but to increase the probability of good government afterwards. For the Labour leader is not going to make the parachutist's mistake: concentrating so hard on summoning up the nerve to jump that he realises only once airborne that he has been contemplating the wrong problem. Having studied previous administrations, Mr Blair must know that one of the main obstacles to taking tough decisions in a Labour government has been the party itself.

By getting his "betrayal" in first, he hopes to win the arguments now rather than then. Labour activists understand that; which is why they see this week as their last chance to influence a possible Labour government. They also understand, however, that the apparent influence is illusory. No wonder they sense that the current climate is inhospitable to their survival.

NATO EXERCISE

The West must get its security priorities right again

Two years ago, war-ravaged Bosnia looked like the rock on which Nato could founder. But since the Dayton peace agreement and the deployment of the Nato-led Implementation Force (Ifor), Bosnia has become instead a safety valve for the alliance. The peace its presence has so far kept is almost secondary to the harmony that it has wrought within Nato and the lifeline of co-operation that it has kept open between Nato and Russia.

This was illustrated at the informal meeting of Nato defence ministers in Bergen last week. Russia's new defence minister, Igor Rodionov, reiterated Moscow's objections to Nato's plans for new members, which America irisists must go ahead next year. But he enthused about Russian participation in a new force for Bosnia after Ifor's mandate expires this December.

The reason is obvious. In Ifor America has made good its promise that Russia will be central to "a security circle for all of Europe". But on Nato's expansion, nothing that America says about a special partnership can obscure, for Moscow, the fact that it is against Russia that the democracies of Central Europe want protection.

Nato is a military alliance, based on the exchange of absolute guarantees of mutual defence and an integrated military structure, which its creators intended to keep the US "in" Europe, Germany "down" and the Soviet Union "out". Nato has failed to convince Russia that this third mission has fallen into disuse; it has failed because no such explanation could be entirely honest. By pressing ahead with plans for a summit, next year, at which "several" countries will be invited to start accession talks, Nato is walking into a confrontation with Russia that it cannot be certain of handling safely.

Nato members insist that they are politically ready for expansion, but it is far from clear that the alliance is financially and operationally ready. The absorption of new members will cost money — at a time when national defence budgets are in steep decline, and nowhere steeper than in the countries seeking admission. It will also take time; and during the transition period, the credibility of Nato's Article 5 guarantee, which was contestable during the Cold War, will inevitably be weakened.

The Allies may be correct in their assessment that low credibility can be afforded at a time of low threat; but there remains the risk that threats could escalate faster than credibility. The most difficult problem of all is that the more successful Nato is at reinventing itself for this larger membership, the more this risks aggravating Russia's sense of isolation.

Hence, the Nato case that enlargement will enhance European security has not been convincingly made. Some officials in America are now toying with a radical solution to the Russian Question — an offer modelled on the 30-year period, now ending, during which France had full political membership of Nato without being part of the integrated military structure. But that has alarmed America's Nato partners and as it is not yet Washington policy, Moscow remains unconvinced.

All this makes little sense. If European governments are serious about enhancing the Continent's stability, they should be at least equally in haste to enlarge the European Union eastward. EU enlargement carries no risk of alienating Russia or increasing the vulnerability of the countries left in noman's land. Yet every light down that track is set at amber, if not red. Nato enlargement is a neat way of keeping the EU door shut. This is a policy of historic irresponsibility, outranking even the miserable fumbling while the Balkans drifted into war. The West is still recovering from that failure. It should think hard about the damage it will inflict on itself, let alone Poland, if it again, on a broader canvas, gets its security priorities back to front.

HISTORIC JOCKEY

To win seven races in an afternoon turns men into gods

A rare defining moment in sport took place on Ascot racecourse at the weekend. Frankie Dettori won all seven races in an afternoon. No half-legendary centaur, not even Lester Piggott or Sir Gordon Richards, has done that before. The odds against Dettori's achievement were at 25,095 to 1. By the seventh race, bookmakers tic-tacking (and flapping in other ways) had cut the odds on his unpromising seventh mount, Fujiyama Crest, from 12-1 to make it an improbable 2-1 favourite. Nevertheless, several modest punters still won £500,000 for a £20 stake, and a spokesman for William Hill declared it "the worst day in bookmaking history", with losses calculated at £18 million.

In terms of other sports this was the equivalent of a racing driver winning every race in the Grand Prix, a bowler taking ten wickets in an innings of a Test Match and then making a century, or a golfer scoring straight birdies in the final round of the Open, ending with a hole in one at the 18th. Most sport is by definition ephemeral, its triumphs and disasters forgotten by the following Saturday. That is the intense trivial pursuit of sport. But just a very few sporting occasions stick in the memory. England winning the World Cup against Germany in extra time, Botham's Test or Lara's score, Borg versus McEnroe in that nail-biting Wimbledon final, or Obolensky's try shimmying through the centre against New Zealand in 1936. And gentlemen in England now abed think themselves accursed they were not there. If all those who claim to have been spectators when Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile had been there, the Iffley Road running-track would have had the capacity of Wembley Stadium.

And the weekend had the improbability of such great sporting records. Lanfranco Dettori comes from Italy not England. As first jockey for Sheikh Mohammed, he rides horses that winter with Godolphin in Dubai rather than in bracing Newmarket. Where other champion jockeys are professionally dignified or dour, Dettori is young, personable and articulate, and enjoys his work. A steward at Ascot asked him not to dismount in his flying ejector-seat style. But he did so anyway, and is the first person in racing to make his solemn employer show animation.

British racing is dour with professionalism. The "industry" begs for tax relief and other financial sops in order to survive. The horses are given peculiar names — especially when they fail to finish in the first three. But the feat of its new superstar hero brings the people's sport long-needed excitement and glamour. So he has galloped into that narrow track of sporting history, even for those short-sighted fools who bet nothing on his historic record. And yesterday, to restore the uncertainty principle of racing, Dettori won only one of his seven races.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Britain's decision on joining 'inevitable' single currency

From Sir Richard Faber

Sir, You say (leading article, September 24) that if Mr Kenneth Clarke were to go from the Cabinet he "would be less missed than he would like to think and little mourned". Why are you so sure of this?

We all know that he has opponents in the Conservative Party, both at Westminster and outside. But he also has supporters, who see in him some guarantee against the surrender of the party to anti-European dogmatism.

Of course there are dangers, as well as possible advantages, in a common European currency [letters, September 25, 26 and 27]. We ought to have had a reasoned debate about them; but this has not been easy in the prevailing political turmoil. Whatever the conclusions of such a debate might have been, we seem currently to have little power to influence the decisions of our main European partners.

By now it is apparently not so much a question of whether or not a common European currency is a good thing. It is whether, if there is one, we can afford to stay out of it. If not, it must surely be in our interest to join sooner rather than later.

We are fearful of losing national sovereignty. But for centuries we have regarded our sovereignty as threatened, or at least circumscribed, when there has been a dominant power on the continent of Europe beyond our effective influence or control.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD FABER,
De l'Angle House, The Green,
Chartham, Canterbury, Kent.
September 24.

From the Editor of New European

Sir, There is one way in which Cabinet unity could be restored on the question of a single currency: the Government should go back to John Major's original proposal to create a hard ecu as a common currency. I know both Euro-sceptics and genuine federalists who would be happy with that arrangement.

A hard ecu would leave business people and people on holiday with a handy currency to use for European transactions. No one need be locked into it — and we know the dangers of being locked in. It would also make it much easier to bring the East European countries into the Union.

When I suggested this to Sir Leon Brittan some 18 months ago he rejected it on the grounds that it would create yet another currency. Of course that is true; but it would also eliminate a high proportion of currency exchanges within the European Union and give the stability which businesses so desperately need.

The only purpose behind an imposed single currency is political and the creation of a centralised European state. I'm sure that if we had stuck to our guns the rest of Europe would be thanking us by now. It is still not too late.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COLEMAN,
Editor, *New European*,
14-16 Carroun Road, SW8.
September 26.

From Mr B. D. Mooney

Sir, Your editorial on economic and monetary union, "Nothing straight" (September 26), raises some interesting points.

As the convergence (qualification) criteria are laid down in the Maastricht treaty they can only be changed through a unanimous vote by member states. The potential "blocking minority" you mention would apply to a decision by the Council of Ministers on which states had met these criteria at the end of 1997. They will decide on the basis of statistics provided by the Commission, who are unlikely to "fudge" the figures to stop a state qualifying.

As Anatole Kaletsky has repeatedly pointed out in your columns, there is an immense momentum for EMU within Europe's political elites, even in the face of fierce public opposition. The United Kingdom and Denmark only have a partial opt-out from this process, and all 15 member states are treaty-bound not to oppose it. Even if EMU would cause political problems at home, the most that a state without an exemption can hope for is a temporary stay of execution ("derogation").

The European Court of Justice may hold the key to what happens. If any state had the temerity to suggest raising the stakes to deter qualification, the court could rule it out of order. Similarly, Germany's "constitutional" opt-out, declared at Karlsruhe in 1993, could be overturned, since legal precedent dating back to 1970 makes Community law supreme (case 11/70).

All evidence shows that monetary union will proceed in some form in 1999 — even if only Ireland and Luxembourg initially qualify.

Yours faithfully,
B. MOONEY
(Marketing Director),
Innovisions Ltd,
30 Langthorne Street, SW6.
September 27.

From Mr David Hurford-Jones

Sir, Mrs Patricia Perry (letter, September 27), secretary of the Charlbury branch of the West Oxfordshire Conservative Association, supports your leader of September 24, "Clarke can go", and states that "most people" support her Euro-sceptic opinions.

On the other hand, I am chairman of the Burford branch of the same association and I strongly oppose her view. I would say that on our executive council most people do not support her group, but it is true that they take up about 70 per cent of our time with this one issue. This seems to be reflected nationally, which is a disaster for the party.

Having been deeply involved in international business for 30 years and having for example spent two days the week before last in Germany, three days last week in Belgium and three days this week in France, I believe that my views are based on first-hand knowledge.

So who represents "the majority"? And anyway is the majority always correct, or should the leaders of the political parties be leading?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HURFORD-JONES,
The Old Manor House,
Shilton, Burford, Oxfordshire.
September 27.

From Professor Peter Rice-Evans

Sir, Whatever Churchill said in 1946 about the European Union (letters, September 20 and 25), the question is what would he advise today in the absence of a British Empire?

Would he advocate being a fully participating member of a great European enterprise or would he prefer a negligible Little England (Scotland will follow Ireland) sandwiched between the USA and the USE?

Yours faithfully,
PETER RICE-EVANS,
The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1.
September 25.

When the train took the strain

From Mr Andrew Dow

Sir, Your leading article, "Myth and steam" (September 25), was less than fair to the old LNER. Its entrepreneurial skills led to a six-hour, non-stop service between London and Edinburgh in 1937, with the smooth ride of articulated carriages, superb catering and the attractions of an observation saloon.

The LNER offered hairdressing salons, on-board radio reception, cinema cars, secretarial services and showers in sleeping cars. It pioneered longer rails to eliminate bumpy joints and introduced forced-air ventilation, the precursor of air conditioning, so that windows need not be open through smoky tunnels.

The Flying Scotsman, *Coronation* and *The Silver Jubilee* trains were the epitome of luxury transport. In pre-war days, air and road services were, by comparison, execrable. The LNER showed the others the way.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW DOW (Head,
National Railway Museum, 1992-94),
Sycamore House, Station Lane,
Shipton-by-Beningbrough, York.
September 25.

From Mr B. D. J. Walsh

Sir, The timetables for 1939 show that one could travel from London to Edinburgh in considerably less than the eight hours you allege. The *Coronation* took six hours from King's Cross, maintaining an average speed of 71.9 mph over the whole distance between London and York, which necessitated at least 90 mph over the faster portions of the line. Trains between London and Newcastle, Leeds and Bradford averaged between 60 and 67 mph over the whole journey.

These trains served meals and refreshments throughout the journey, whereas now buffet cars are closed at intervals. The *Coronation* had an observation car, *The Flying Scotsman* a ladies' retiring room, and the seats were much more comfortable than some of those available now.

The service is more frequent and faster than it was, but one should expect some improvement over more than 50 years.

Yours faithfully,
B. D. J. WALSH (President,
The Railway Club, 1982-94),
The Old Rectory,
Burgate, Diss, Norfolk.
September 25.

From Mr W. J. Alcock

Sir, By the late 1930s the summer non-stop *Flying Scotsman* was taking only seven hours on a journey which might arguably have been described as romantic.

During and after the war the time had expanded to 8¾ hours, often more because of late running. At this period the train was often 20 or more coaches long and the journey hardly romantic.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM ALCOCK,
St Andrew,
Midhurst Road, Haslemere, Surrey.
September 25.

From Mr Harry Scotting

Sir, The steam engine *Flying Scotsman* is not lying boxed in pieces. It has been carefully stripped down, its parts being thoroughly reconditioned, and last week I witnessed a devoted team re-tyring the front bogie wheels.

Pullman carriages are also being fully restored and there are plans to run a "real" *Flying Scotsman* train.

Yours sincerely,
HARRY SCOTTING,
Harry Scotting Photography,
1-5 Midford Place, W1.
September 25.

Church music

From the Reverend K. W. Clinch

Sir, I think your correspondent Mrs Linda Brooke (September 20; see also letters, September 12, 16, 23, 25) is less than fair to church organists. I see their role as being much more than providing musical accompaniment.

Music can be, and is in many churches, used to "set the scene", as it were.

In the days when I was a parish priest I often told my people what I was taught at Sunday school many years ago: "Before the service, talk to God. During the service, let God talk to you. After the service, talk with your friends."

Too many congregations ignore this these days, but a sensitive organist, with appropriate music, can encourage a prayerful silence on the part of a congregation before the service.

Having said that, however, I have to admit that I have heard many post-service voluntaries of such exuberance that "talking with friends" is out of the question.

Yours faithfully,
K. W. CLINCH,
Brae Cottage,
193 Hastings Road,
Battle, East Sussex.
September 25.

From Professor Irving S. Benjamin

Sir, The practice of playing popular tunes in the guise of organ voluntaries did not end with Mrs Whitworth's great-aunt's generation (letter, September 23).

In the 1960s I played guitar in a trio which did the rounds of church socials, dances, etc. The pianist in the group was also our assistant church organist, and it was his habit to disguise current hit tunes in this manner, to the great amusement of those of us in the choir stalls who were in the know and could enjoy a game of "spot the tune".

My clearest memory is of his rendition of *Telstar*, the Tornados' hit single of 1962, as a baroque toccata. Several members of the congregation who had listened with great attention, but no recognition, approached him after the service to congratulate him and ask who the composer was; to which he replied that it was a little-known contemporary of J. S. Bach.

Yours sincerely,
IRVING S. BENJAMIN,
16 Denmark Road, Ealing, W13.
September 24.

From Mr James Macmillan

Sir, At High Mass at Ampleforth Abbey in the late 1950s a young monk played *She Wore Red Feathers and a Hula-Hula Skirt*.

Johann Sebastian himself, if alive, might have thought it was his; the abbot, rumour had it, did. Certainly the young monk was still at the organ the following Sunday.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES MACMILLAN,
Curling Tye Cottage,
Woodham Walter, Maldon, Essex.
September 25.

Bhutto's commitment to democracy

From Mr Gerald Howarth

Sir, In his report about Pakistan your South Asia correspondent, Christopher Thomas, says of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto that "No elected leader has been more unpopular since the state was founded in 1947" (September 24; see also report and leading article, September 25). This is a sweeping generalisation. All governments tend to be unpopular mid-term, especially if they have the courage to forgo short-term popularity to pursue major economic and social reforms of the kind which Benazir Bhutto is undertaking.

The far-reaching tax reforms that she has introduced are undoubtedly unpopular, but they are essential if Pakistan is to receive the support it requires from the IMF and the World Bank.

Miss Bhutto's campaign for — and commitment to — democracy is, in my opinion, undiminished. However, her Government has had to take tough measures to deal with violence (encouraged in part by opponents in London), which threatens the country's trade and commerce and hence the livelihood of its people.

At this time of grief and potential political turbulence Miss Bhutto needs support to safeguard the country's stability.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD HOWARTH,
35 Grantham Road, Chiswick, W4.
September 25.

From Sir Frederic Bennett

Sir, Christopher Thomas asserts in his report today that it is a lie that Kashmiri Muslims want to join Pakistan. If he is correct, why is it that India continues to deny Kashmiris, through a democractic plebiscite, their right of self-determination to choose their own political future, as promised to them fifty years ago at the time of the sub-continent's partition by the UN Security Council? This was endorsed at the time, over and over again, in solemn pledges to that effect given "on the record" by the then Indian Prime Minister, Mr Nehru.

Yours etc,
FREDERIC BENNETT,
Plas Cwmllecoediog,
Aberangell, Nr Machynlleth, Powys.
September 25.

Trial by jury

From Mr Robert Lyons

Sir, Peter Binning's article, "Are juries essential?" (Law, September 24), suggests that the main issues at stake are ones of technical expertise in decision-making and of expediency for the defendant. Whatever happened to the view that the jury represented an important independent element in the judicial process?

In a jury trial, the prosecution must establish its case beyond reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of 12 individuals who have no personal interest in the justice system. As such, the trial is made a more open and fairer process: it is not simply a "rubber-stamping" of some predetermined view. Blackstone's point that the jury is a "bulwark against tyranny" remains true.

Much of the discussion about the Maxwell trial [letters, September 21, 26] has assumed that the jury were too stupid to understand the case before them. In reality, after listening for months to the evidence, I believe that they were better placed than anyone to assess the guilt or innocence of the defendants. Yet, many now have a low view of the capacity of their peers to judge them.

I regard the fact that only about 1 per cent of criminal cases in England and Wales are now heard by juries as a major erosion of a basic freedom, and I would argue that the jury is a necessary, if not a sufficient, means to ensure justice.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LYONS
(Scottish convener),
Freedom and Law,
c/o PO Box 7, 64 Goodge Street, W1.
September 26.

Royal example

From Mrs Jennifer Miller

Sir, The Spanish royal aides should take the trouble to glance at the Court Circulars in *The Times* ("Spanish Prince avoids Charles's blunders", report, September 23). These give some idea of the extensive activities of our Cambridge graduate Prince of Wales, although all his preparatory work for speeches and discussions is not of course included.

Prince Charles fulfilled over 600 official engagements at home and abroad last year. This year he has already made official visits to Canada, Morocco and Brunei, and helped receive the Presidents of France and South Africa. For environmental causes he has been to the US, Germany, Italy and Croatia. He has visited all parts of the UK, including the Isles of Scilly and the Isle of Man, to encourage good causes and projects.

Apart from carrying out his prearranged engagements he also went to the London Docklands after the bombing in February, and spoke with and thanked medical staff and representatives of the emergency services.

Let Prince Felipe equal all this, if he can.

Yours faithfully,
JENNIFER MILLER,
2 Heathview Gardens, Putney, SW15.
September 23.

Sport letters, page 36

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Not guilty

From Mr Tony Wilmot

Sir, Lynne Truss, in her television review of September 24, writes of "Bodkin Adams, the infamous doctor who murdered a patient for the money". He may well have done just that; but in fact he was famously acquitted of the charge at the Old Bailey — and later won substantial damages from the many newspapers which had presumed his guilt in print.

Happily for you and Miss Truss, Adams died in 1983.

Yours sincerely,
A. WILMOT (Member,
Crime Writers' Association),
3 Lansdowne Court,
1 Lansdowne Road, SW20.
September 24.

Dress code

From Dr A. Freedman

Sir, We elderly gents are frequently guilty of carelessness in our dress. On one such occasion recently a friend said to me "XYZ", a remark which totally baffled me. The explanation was "Examine your zip".

I suspect this is a private family code as neither I nor my immediate acquaintance have heard it before. It seems an admirably concise and gentle way of absolving the sins of senility, which I commend to your readers, unless, of course, they know of a better.

Yours truly,
ARNOLD FREEDMAN,
5 Chadlington Road, Oxford.
September 27.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

September 28: The Prince Edward, Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, this evening attended the Anniversary Ball onboard *Queen Elizabeth 2* at Southampton.

KENSINGTON PALACE

September 28: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott at a Service of Thanksgiving for the Dowager Countess of Mar and Kellie which was held at St Mungo's Church, Alloa, Clackmannanshire, this afternoon.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, British Consultants Bureau, this afternoon departed Heathrow Airport to accompany the Mission to Vietnam, Philippines and Indonesia.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

September 28: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this afternoon attended Ascot Races and presented The Queen's Trophy for The Queen Elizabeth II Stakes.

BALMORAL CASTLE

September 29: Divine Service was held in Crathie Parish Church this morning. The Reverend Dr Stewart Todd preached the Sermon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

September 29: The Princess Royal, Patron, BT Global Challenge, today started the race from the ferry "Duc de Normandie" off Gilkecker Point, Southampton Water, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

Royal engagements

The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, will attend the annual equestrian awards ceremony at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 12.30; and, as Past President, the Chartered Institute of Transport, will attend the Past Presidents' Dinner at the Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, WC2, at 5.40.

Princess Alexandra will visit St Clement's School, Tulloch Street, Dingwall, Ross and Cromarty, at 2.00; and will open the Puffin Hydrotherapy Pool at 3.10.

Birthdays today

Mr G.J. Allen, chief executive, IMI, 52; Sir Stanley Bailey, former Chief Constable, Northumbria, 70; the Rev Dr Gordon Barritt, former president, Methodist Conference, and former principal, NCH Action for Children, 76; Lord Belstead, 64; Sir Derek Birkin, chairman, RTZ Corporation, 67; Mr Kevin Brewer, former governor, Maidstone Prison, 47; General Sir Edward Burgess, 69; Viscount Cranborne, 50; Professor Sir Eric Denton, marine biologist, 73; Lord Dixon-Smith, 62; Sir Peter Fawcus, colonial officer, 81; Mr Staffan Gadd, banker, 62; Mr John Goodwin, director, Inner Cities Young People's Project, 50; Mrs Teresa Gorman, MP, 65; Mr A.E.S. Green, painter, 57; Mr A.R. Hacker, clarinetist and conductor, 58; the Right Rev Patrick Harris, Bishop of Southwell, 62; Professor F. Llewellyn-Jones, former principal, University College of Swansea, 89; Miss Deborah Kerr, actress, 75; Mr Johnny Mathis, singer, 58; Mr Ian Ogilvy, actor, 53; Mrs Penelope Penney, Headmistress, Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls, Elstree, 54; Mr Stewart Steven, former Editor, *Evening Standard*, 61; Sir Peter Yarranton, former chairman, Sports Council, 72.

Luncheon

Sheriffs of the City of London

After their admission to the office of Sheriffs of the City of London, Mr Alderman and Sheriff Clive Martin and Mr Sheriff Keith Knowles received the guests at the Sheriffs' Breakfast held on Friday at Drapers' Hall. Mr C.B. Powell-Smith, Judge Sir Lawrence Verney, Alderman Sir Peter Levene and Mr Kenneth Ayers were the speakers. Among those present were:

Sir Edward Howard, Sir John Welch, Sir Robert Bellinger, Commander Sir Robin Gillett, Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vanneck, Sir Anthony Jolliffe, Dame Mary Donaldson, Alderman Sir Greville Spratt, Sir Francis McWilliams, Sir Colin Cole, Captain Sir Malcolm Edge, Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, the Queen's Remembrancer, Members of the Court of Aldermen and Court of Common Council, Masters of Livery Companies, and former Sheriffs and Officers of the Corporation of London.

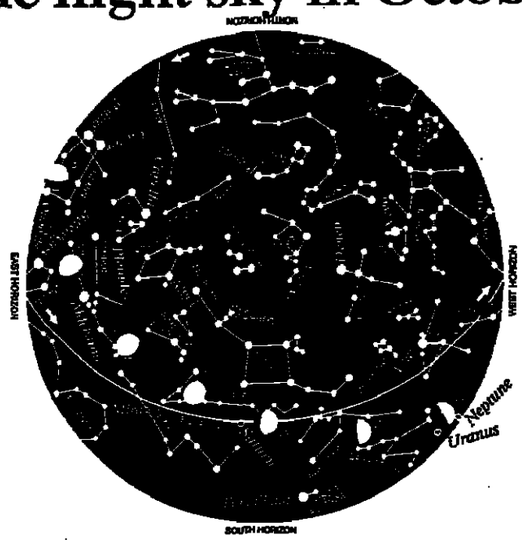
Gray's Inn

The following have been elected Masters of the Bench of Gray's Inn:

Sir Arthur Watts, QC, Judge James Rant, QC, Mr Christopher Wilson-Smith, Professor Bob Alexander Hepple QC (Hon), Mr John Lester Hand, QC, Miss Hazel Eleanor Williamson, QC.

The night sky in October

BY MICHAEL J HENDRIE
ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

MERCURY is a morning star rising more than an hour and a half before the Sun during the first week of October but moving nearer the horizon during the second week. Greatest western elongation (18 degrees) is on the 3rd. This is the most favourable morning apparition of the year. At 0 mag on the 1st it will brighten to -1 magnitude during the second week. Mercury should be visible low in the east about dawn during the first two weeks of the month.

Venus is a brilliant -4.1 mag morning object rising about 02h and 03h 30m early and late in the month. It moves eastwards from Leo into Virgo. On the morning of the 4th it will pass very close to the first magnitude star Regulus (less than a Moon's diameter). The waning crescent Moon will be 4 degrees south on the 9th.

Mars is also in Leo and 1.4 magnitude passing a degree to the north of Regulus on the 29th. Moon to the south on the 7th.

Jupiter is in Sagittarius, the -2.1 magnitude planet setting around 20h by the 21st. Moon to the north on the 18th.

Saturn is in Pisces, 0.6 magnitude and not setting until 03h 30m on the 31st. Moon to the north on the 24th. Uranus is in Capricornus, being stationary on the 10th. Moon to the north on the 19th.

Neptune is in Sagittarius, stationary on the 6th and setting by 21h 30m by the 31st.

During the first part of this month all the planets are accessible to observation in a dark sky. From west to east are Jupiter in the southwest in early evening closely followed by Neptune and Uranus (5.6 and 8.0 mag needing optical aid), then Saturn, and not yet on the chart but visible before dawn, Mars, Venus and Mercury. The Moon will also be visible. As a bonus, the comet Hale-Bopp is now quite an easy object in binoculars, just on the chart between the arrow above the equator and 'west' in the constellation Serpens.

The Moon: last quarter 4d 12h; new Moon 12d 14h; first quarter 19d 18h; full Moon 26d 14h. Sunset on the 1st is at 17h 40m and on the 31st at 16h 35m while sunrise is at 06h 00m and 06h 50m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight ends at 19h 30m and 18h 30m early and late in the month and begins again at 04h 05m and 05h 00m.

Algol, the eclipsing binary variable star in Perseus, fades from 2.1 to 3.4 mag every 69 hours. It can be seen when faint this month about the following times: 16d 02h, 18d 23h and 21d 20h.

There are only four first magnitude stars in front of which the Moon can pass: Aldebaran, Regulus, Spica and Antares. These events are called lunar occultations. The same stars are not occulted every month or even every year as the Moon's path is continually changing, but when a star is in the Moon's path it will often be occulted several times in successive months over a year or so.

The Moon will pass in front of Aldebaran in Taurus on the evening of the 1st. As the Moon is moving eastwards against the stars, the star will disappear at the Moon's eastern edge (limb) and reappear up to an hour later on the western side. On the 1st, disappearance will occur before the Moon rises but it may be seen to reappear about 21h 48m in London, times varying somewhat with the observer's position. Aldebaran is occulted again on the 29th at about 08h 30m but it will then be daylight.

The Orionids meteors shower occurs about the 21st but there will be a gibbous Moon, though this will set soon after 01h on the 22nd, by which time the radiant (shown on the chart) will be quite high.

There is a partial eclipse of the Sun on the 12th visible throughout the British Isles. For observers near London it begins at 12h 59m ending at 15h 31m (about 2pm and 4h 30 pm BST). Times are a little earlier to the west and north. At its maximum, about 60 per cent of the Sun will be covered by the Moon.

It is of course dangerous to stare directly at the Sun with the naked eye and blindness can result if binoculars or a telescope are used without special filters which remove excess light, ultra violet and infrared (heat) radiation. The small dark glasses which are supplied with some telescopes to fit over the eyepiece should not be used. Smoked glass and old film are not always safe and best avoided. And in any case there is a more comfortable, safe way of following the eclipse.

A small hole in a dark blind in a south-facing room or a large box with a pinhole at the sunny end will project an image of the Sun on to a white card, but it is usually simpler to use a small hand mirror which is completely covered with a piece of card except for a circular hole about 6mm (1/4in) across.

Point the mirror towards the Sun and direct the reflected beam into a north-facing room. The image of the Sun is best seen on a smooth white wall or screen. In the absence of a suitable room a large cardboard box can be used. If the mirror is 15m from the screen the Sun will be 12cm across and several people can follow the eclipse in safety. The beam should not be shone into anyone's eyes and children should always be supervised.

Nature notes

Flocks of rooks spread out over the fields, some settling among the sprouting winter wheat, some on the young sugarbeet, some on the earth that has just been ploughed and harrowed. They join up again when one finds a patch particularly rich in food, and start quarrelling. Woodpigeons and jackdaws also join them. Skylarks are flying around together, skirmishing in the sky, as they begin to plot out their winter territories on the land below. Yellowhammers are gathering in flocks in the hedges: at this time of year they have a note like a brief trickle of water. They keep their yellow head plumage in the winter, but it becomes more streaky. Leaves are changing colour earlier this year. The hawthorns are the most dramatic at present, with deep red, purple, pink and yellow leaves, as well as crimson berries. Some birch woods are now almost entirely yellow. Lombardy poplars have a golden glow. Oaks and beeches are still dark green, but odd individual leaves are turning brown. Michaelmas daisies that have naturalised in the wild are in flower on railway embankments. Other flowers still to be seen include white campion, yarrow, in both white and pink varieties, and purple mallow. DJM


The rook

Service luncheon

RAF Tempsford Association

Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges presided at the annual Tempsford Association reunion luncheon (138 and 161 Squadrons) held on Saturday at The Anchor Hotel, Tempsford, Bedfordshire.

Service reunion

RAF Cranwell Apprentices

Air Commodore A.J.B. Clements presided at the annual reunion of the RAF Cranwell Apprentices Association held on Saturday at RAF Locking. Air Commodore J.D. Jones also spoke.

Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Honorary Fellows

The following Honorary Fellows have been introduced:

Lady Warnock;
Lord Kilpatrick of Kincraig.

New Fellows

The college has elected to the Fellowship the following persons:

David Doyle, Marc G. Bogaert, Cho Lay Mar, Thomas F. Zuck, Joseph Hoe Kee Lim, R Bernd Sterzel, Matthew Howard Kaufman, Samuel Kyaw Hla, James D. Crapo, Bernard Slike, Mohammed Semakalu Kibirige.

Memorial services

The Dowager Countess of Mar and Kellie

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott at a service of thanksgiving for the life of the Dowager Countess of Mar and Kellie held on Saturday at St Mungo's, Alloa.

The Rev Alan Downie officiated. The Rev the Hon Michael Erskine, son, led the prayers and the Rev Dr Ian M. Fraser paid tribute. Among others present were:

The Earl and Countess of Mar and Kellie and the Hon Alexander and Mrs Erskine (sons and daughters-in-law), Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew and Lady Fiona Campbell (son-in-law and daughter), the Hon Mrs Michael Erskine (daughter-in-law), Mr A Erskine, Isabel Erskine and Barney, Poppy and Rosie Campbell (grandchildren), the Hon David Erskine and the Hon Robert Erskine (brothers-in-law), Mrs A Thorne (sister-in-law) and other members of the family and friends.

Mr Robin Aymer Whitworth

A memorial service for Mr Robin Aymer Whitworth, radio and television pioneer, was held on Saturday in New College Chapel, Oxford. The service, devised by Robin Whitworth, was introduced by the Rev Philip Hunt, who also read the first lesson. The Rev Dr Robert Harnish, college chaplain, officiated. Miss Anna Whitworth, daughter, read the second lesson. Countess Baldwin of Bewdley reminisced about Robin Whitworth's hospital work with the Friends Ambulance Unit during the Second World War. Dr Fiona Sampson read a poem by Robin Whitworth, Miss Monica Sims read from the works of Ivan Turgenev and Dr Robert Martin read a Shakespearean sonnet.

Miss Jane Chisholm and Mrs Rose Shipman, nieces, and Mr Julian Chisholm, nephew, also gave readings. Mr Paul Whitfield, godson, gave an address.

Mrs Whitworth (widow) was present with other members of the family, friends and former colleagues.

Madame Kazuko Aso

A Memorial Service, to give thanks for the life and work of Kazuko Aso (Mrs Takakichi Aso, Hon DBE), will be held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, Mayfair, London, W1, at 10.00am on Monday, October 14, 1996. All friends will be welcome.

Service appointments

Royal Navy

Vice-Admiral J H Dunt to be Chief of Fleet Support from April 15, 1997. He succeeds Vice-Admiral Sir Toby Frere. The appointment carries with it membership of the Admiralty Board of the Defence Council.

Commodore B B Perowne to be promoted Rear-Admiral and appointed Director General Fleet Support (Operations and Plans) from November 6, 1996. He succeeds Rear-Admiral P Spencer.

The Army

Lieutenant-General: Major-General R.A. Cordy-Simpson, CB, OBE (late 13th/18th Royal Hussars), Deputy Chief of Staff of Headquarters Land Command: to be Deputy Force Commander Operations, Operation Joint Endeavour Phase V in the acting rank of Lieutenant-General.

Major-General: Major-General K.J. Drewienkiewicz (late Royal Engineers), Director of Support, Landcent: to be Chief of Staff Headquarters Landcent on Operation Joint Endeavour Phase V.

Legal appointment

Mr David Edmond Neuberger, QC, has been appointed a Justice of the High Court. He will be assigned to the Chancery Division.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.T.F. Besly and Miss S.L. Powys Maurice

The engagement is announced between Tom, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Besly, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk, and of the late Mrs Besly, and Sarah, elder daughter of the late Captain M.C. Powys Maurice, RN, and of Mrs Michael Powys Maurice, of West Harting, West Sussex.

Mr F.M. Dubruel de Broglio and Miss J.K. Ling

The engagement is announced between François, son of Mr and Mrs M.M.R. Dubruel de Broglio, of Harpford, Devon, and Joanna, daughter of Mr A.J. Ling, of Hayling Island, Hampshire and the late Mrs Ling.

Mr A.K.R. Murray and Miss T.L. Ramsden

The engagement is announced between Alexander, only son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Murray, of Wolverton Common, Hampshire, and Trudi, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Ramsden, of Shipley, Yorkshire.

Mr C.D.StJ. Penney and Miss C.A. Porter

The engagement is announced between Charles, third son of Dr and Mrs G.N.StJ. Penney, of Bishop's Castle, Shropshire, and Camilla, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D.S. Porter, of London SW3.

Mr S.R.B. Pugh and Miss P.A. Wilson

The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of the late Mr John Pugh and of Mrs Robert Baff, of Chelsea, and Penny, daughter of the late Commander Peter Wilson and of Mrs John Grantham, of Pimlico.

The Earl of Warwick and Miss L. Heenan

The engagement is announced between Guy, Earl of Warwick, and Louisa, younger daughter of Dr Peter Heenan and Mrs Astrid MacNamara, both of Perth, Western Australia.

Mr J.R.O. Young and Miss E. Smedley

The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Young, of Steep, Hampshire, and Elsbeth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Smedley, of Waverton, Cheshire.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Henry Somerset, 1st Baron Raglan, C-in-C during the Crimean War, Badminton, Gloucestershire, 1788; Frederick Sleigh Roberts, 1st Earl Roberts, field marshal, Cawnpore, 1832; Sir Charles Stanford, composer, Dublin, 1852; Hermann Sudermann, writer, Matziken, East Prussia, 1857; Truman Capote, writer, New Orleans, 1924; Marc Bolan, rock musician, London, 1947.

DEATHS: Fulke Greville, 1st Baron Brooke, poet and statesman, murdered, London, 1628; George Whitefield, evangelist, Newbury Port, Massachusetts, 1770; James Brindley, canal builder, Turnhurst, Staffordshire, 1772; Georges Boulanger, soldier and politician, committed suicide, Brussels, 1891; Rudolf Diesel, engineer, pioneer of the internal combustion engine, at sea, 1913; Frederick Edwin Smith, 1st Earl of Birkenhead, lord chancellor 1919-22, London, 1930; Sir Robert Hadfield, metallurgist, London, 1940; Lewis Fry Richardson, mathematician, Kilmun, Argyll, 1953; James Dean, film actor, Paso Robles, California, 1955.

Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute* was first performed in Vienna, 1791.

Germany and the Soviet Union signed a pact agreeing on the partition of Poland, 1939.

The Berlin airlift ended, 1949.

Marriages

Major S.D. Oliver and Miss E.J. Molesworth-St Aubyn

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Petroc's, Egloshayle, Wadebridge, Cornwall, of Major Simon David Oliver, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys), younger son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs M.D. Oliver, of Pimperne, Dorset, to Miss Emma Molesworth-St Aubyn, only daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Arscott and Lady Molesworth-St Aubyn, of Pencarrow, Cornwall. The Rev Brian Anderson officiated, assisted by the Rev Brian Payne.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Ciara and Jessica Oliver, Helena Parker, Alexandra Molesworth-St Aubyn, Harry and Freddy Oliver, Sebastian Inglis-Jones and Miss Celia Cooke-Hurle. Major Mark Ravnkilde was best man.

A guard of honour was found by The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys).

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr A.J.Mc. Crawford and Miss S.H.M. Bidwell

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of the Holy Cross, Goodnestone, Kent, of Mr Andrew Crawford, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ian Crawford, of Blairgowrie, Perthshire, to Miss Sophie Bidwell, only daughter of Sir Hugh and Lady Bidwell, of Goodnestone. The Rev David Burgess officiated, assisted by the Rev Patrick Goodsell.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Paddy and Skye Lowrie and Miss Camilla Curzon. Mr Duncan Crawford was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Dr D. Doyle and Mrs C. Whitley

The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, September 28, 1996, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield, between Dr David Doyle, of Bearsden, husband of the late Janet Doyle, née Potter, and Mrs Catherine (Kate) Whitley, née Cruikshank, of Edinburgh, widow of the late John S. Whitley. The Rev David Rimmer officiated.

Mr S.D. Harris and Miss A. Noler

The marriage took place on Saturday, at the Church of St George and St Ethelbert, between Mr Stephen Harris, son of Mr and Mrs D. Harris, of Beckton, London, to Miss Ann Noler, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Noler, of Plaistow, London. The Rev Peter C. Turner officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Mr Darren Kirby was best man.

A reception was held at Willthorn Pavilion and the honeymoon is being spent in Jamaica.

Bradfield College

Stevens House, named after Bradfield's Founder, Thomas Stevens, was opened by the Hon Richard Stanley, Warden of Bradfield, on Saturday, September 28. The opening was attended by fifty descendants of Thomas Stevens. Stevens House is the third of Bradfield's new houses to have been built since 1989 and takes the total number of Sixth Form girls to 120. Applicants for places in September 1997 are invited to apply to the Admissions Secretary, Bradfield College, Bradfield, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 6AR. Tel: 0118 9744203.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Remember the theme of my gospel: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, born of David's line. For preaching this I am exposed to hardship, even to the point of being fettered like a criminal. 2 Timothy 2 : 8,9

BIRTHS

BUDGETT - On 21st September 1996, to Sue (née Moore) and Richard, a daughter Saskia Elizabeth Hope, a sister for Jessica and Sam.

EDWARDS - On September 25th, in Luxembourg, to Ursula and Nicolas, a daughter, Olivia Alice Débora.

KEELING - On 24th September, to Siobhan (née Collins) and Tom, a son, Edward Anthony, a brother for Arthur.

MURRAY-POORE - On September 25th, to Veronica and Jonathan, a daughter, Jemima Elizabeth.

REVELL - On 26th September 1996, to Caroline and Michael, a son, William Arthur Frederick, a brother for Hope.

SHARP - On Wednesday 25th September, to Pippa and Peter, a son, Christopher. A little brother for Sam, Florence and William.

ANNIVERSARIES

TAYLOR-HECTOR - On 30th September 1995. To my dearest Tanya, loan on me, and we will be together for life.

DEATHS

BENNETT - Michael Hastin MA, MB, B.Chir, FRCS, aged 76, died September 9th. Thanksgiving Service St. Mary the Virgin, Elham, Nr Canterbury, October 19th at 12 noon. No flowers. Donations to Injured Jockey's Fund, Welwyn, Herts. AL6 9EU.

DAY - Harold, former night Compositor of the Times, retired 1978, died aged 82 following a stroke on 25th September 1996. Dearly loved father of Andrew, Colin and Joanna and grandfather to Gary, Laura and David, will be sadly missed. Donations if desired to The Stroke Association c/o Fredk. W. Paine, 6, Coombe Lane, Raynes Park, London SW20 8ND.

de FERRIERE - Irene Loffill, peacefully at St. George's Square on 24th September aged 98 years. Dearly loved wife of the late Rupert de Ferrière. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium on Tuesday 8th October at 1.45pm. No flowers by request. Donations if desired for Cats Protection League or Talking Books for the Blind, c/o J. H. Kenyon Funeral Directors, 74 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1JU

EADES - On Friday September 27th Dr Sheila Eades F.R.C.P.(E) DCH retired consultant paediatrician in Cornwall. Peacefully after a full life and a long illness bravely faced. The loved sister of Barbara and Robin. Service of thanksgiving at All Hallows Church Kea Truro Cornwall on Friday October 4th at 2.00pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if wished for Mount Edgcumbe Hospice, to the Funeral Director A J H Burrows Penelewey Feock Truro Cornwall.

FEARNSIDE - On 26th September 1996 at home, after a long illness, Sgn. Ldr. Frederick Haigh, aged 80. Very dear husband of Alice and father of Roger. Cremation at 10.00am followed by meeting for worship at Quaker Meeting House, Bedford on Friday 4th October at 11.00am. Details from Arnolds Funeral Service, Bedford Tel: (01234) 359529. No flowers please.

FREEMAN - Maxwell Irving died on Friday 27th September at his home Chateaux Des Charreaux St.Agnon France after a long illness. He fought the good fight with all his might. The funeral takes place Monday 30th September 10.30am, Church of St.Agnon France.

GRANT - Jean (née Stewart) at home in Bristol on September 26th 1996. Much loved and loving wife of Ian and dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral at Canford Crematorium on Thursday October 3rd at 3.00pm. No flowers please. Donations if desired to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

HORNER - Raymond William O.B.E., T.D., F.I.C.E., on September 24th at his home, beloved husband of Ruth and father of Margaret and John. Funeral Service at St. Giles Church, Stoke Poges, Friday 4th October at 2pm. No flowers please. Donations to St. Giles Church Fabric Fund. Enquiries to E. Sargeant & Son (01753) 520081

HOW - Richard Granville CBE at home 27th September 1996, aged 81. Much loved husband of Peggy and a loving father and grandfather. Funeral at Saint Peters, Neatishead, 2pm October 2nd. Family flowers only. Any donations to C of E Childrens Society, Freepost, London WC1X 0BR.

MOUKARZEL - Kamal, suddenly at home on Tuesday 24th September 1996. Beloved husband of Dalida (née Leigh-Bell) and much loved father of Naim, Bashir and Natalie. Funeral service Wednesday 2nd October 1996 at 11 am. at Our Most Holy Redeemer and St. Thomas More - Cheyne Row - Chelsea SW3 followed by burial service at Gunnersbury Cemetery - Gunnersbury Avenue, Ealing. Donations if desired to:- Preventative Cardiology Research Fund - Hammersmith Hospital, Middlesex UB9 6JH. Enquiries: J.H.Kenyon (0171) 834 4624.

PATEL - On September 21st 1996, in hospital in Mombasa, Kenya, aged 67 years, Chhanabhai Motibhai, recently late of "Court Kandies", London Road, Morden, Surrey, beloved husband of Shantaben, and father of Dakshaben, Bansi, Jyotika, Purnima and Rashid. He will be most sadly missed. Cremation took place on September 23rd in Nairobi, Kenya.

RATCLIFFE - Clive, peacefully on September 27th 1996, lovingly cared for by Ian Murphy. Son of the late André and Bertie Ratcliffe and dear brother of June Reid and Cecilia Cussans. Requiem Mass at the Church of The Transfiguration, Kensal Rise, on Saturday October 5th 1996 at 10 am. Donations, if wished, to Save the Children Fund.

ROSS - On Thursday 26th September, Ella Ross. For over 60 years, beloved friend and Nanny to the Poole, Allhusen and Logan-Tooth families. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium on Friday 4th October at 12.30pm. Flowers to J H Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, W8.

SUTHERLAND - On 27th September at Wordsworth House Nursing Home, Alexander J.B. (Sandy) of Newcastle Upon Tyne and lately of Watford. Loving husband of the late Eleanor. Funeral service at Newcastle Crematorium on Wednesday 2nd October at 3.30pm. Family flowers only please.

THOMAS - On Thursday September 26th 1996, Annaliese Christine, peacefully in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, after an illness bravely borne. Beloved wife of Ithel and dearest mother of Peter. Funeral Service at St. Edmund's Church, Cambridge, on Thursday, October 3rd at 11.15 am to be followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations for St. Edward's Church would be appreciated.

TONGUE - Francis, on September 26th, peacefully during the night, aged 87. Husband of the late Edith Tongue, greatly loved father of Alan and Christopher, grandfather of Sheridan, Michael, Craig and Giles. Will be sadly missed by his family and a large circle of friends. Funeral service at Walcot Methodist Church, Bath, on Thursday October 3rd at 3.00pm followed by cremation at Haycombe Crematorium. Funeral Directors E Hooper and Son. Tel: 01225 422040.

WHITEFIELD - On September 27th 1996, peacefully at home, after a short illness, Lily, aged 84 years. Much loved mother of Di and Robin and grandmother of Mark, Sophie, Henry, Melanie, Anna, George and Serena. Cremation on Thursday October 3rd at 12.00 noon at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Cancer Research c/o Heathfield Funeral Service, Haligham Road, Heathfield. Tel. (01435) 862648.

WILKINSON - Professor Sir Geoffrey, FRS. Suddenly of a heart attack in London on September 26th, aged 75. Husband of Lisa, father of Anna and Fernille, grandfather of Ellen and Michael. Funeral private. Memorial service in London to be announced later.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

HARRISON - Diana, Cremation will take place Monday 7th October 3.30pm at Islington Crematorium, 133 High Road, N22. All friends welcome, and afterwards at Melgund Road. Cut flowers only please or a donation to either Cats Protection League or British Diabetic Association if desired, as a tribute to friendship.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

ELLIS - Vivian John Hewson CBE How GSM, who died 19th June 1996 aged 92. There will be a Memorial Celebration Concert of the Words and Music of Vivian Ellis CBE "Spread A Little Happiness" on Sunday 6th October 1996 at 7.30pm at The Adelphi Theatre, Strand. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster on (0171) 344 4444 at £10.00 and £15.00. All proceeds to "The Friends of The Vivian Ellis Prize" to encourage Young Writers for the Musical Stage.

SCOTT - A Memorial Service for Sir Nevill Mott C.H., F.R.S. will be held on Saturday, 16th November 1996 at 2.30pm in Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

SCLATER - Robert H. Died in Cordoba, Argentina, on 30th September 1994. Sadly missed by Madeleine. "Love is not changed by death, And nothing is lost and all in the end is harvest."

BIRTHDAYS

D.G.T Wishing you a very happy 40th birthday, with love C.S.S. Max and the girls.

WANTED

PRE 1940's clothes, linen, lace, furs, patchwork, quilts, embroideries, samplers, shawls, oriental textiles, costume jewellery 0171 229 9618

TICKETS FOR SALE

ALL AWARD Finances, Olivier, all theatre, Cinema, T. Turner, Rugby all sport 0171 480 6185

ALL THEATRE Concerts, sporting events & other sold out events. S Patterson 0171 930 3895 Fax: 0171 930 3894

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OBITUARIES

LESLIE CROWTHER

Leslie Crowther, CBE, actor and comedian, died on September 28 of heart failure aged 65. He was born in Nottingham on February 6, 1933.



A generation grew up laughing at Leslie Crowther's jokes. He was a firmly established star of television for more than 30 years, but he will be best remembered for his long run with the popular children's programme *Crackerjack* in the 1960s. It turned him, as he once self-mockingly put it, into a modern Pied Piper. Wherever he went, children would follow, waiting for him to perform his well-known trick of raising his "double-jointed" eyebrows, which guaranteed shrieks of laughter.

He joined the programme in 1960, delighting the millions of young viewers with his antics and his cheeky baiting of the show's host, Eamonn Andrews. He took over from Andrews as anchorman four years later.

Crowther, who was to have five of his own, instinctively knew what made children laugh. He was the perfect prankster, his expressive face like some naughty schoolboy's, and his infectious giggle never far away.

His lively comedy was broad without being vulgar, and he scored an equal success with adult viewers when he moved on to become one of the stars in the long-running *Black and White Minstrel Show*. A classically-trained pianist, he regularly played with another of the show's stars, comedian and jazz trombonist George Chisholm, in fool-about musical numbers.

However, after *Crackerjack* his biggest television success was as game show host of the runaway 1980s hit *The Price Is Right*, in which he coined his best-known catchphrase, "Come on down". He later went on to present a popular television talent show, *Stars in their Eyes*.

On *The Price is Right*, Crowther's ability to coax people into making utter idiots of themselves in order to win a new bedroom suite or deep-freeze became almost legendary. Critics mocked the show with accusations of avarice and unsubtlety, but it never worried the host — nor the 13 million viewers.

Tall and darkly handsome — he later regularly had his hair dyed to keep himself looking young, as he cheerfully admitted — he became the housewives' favourite. Many of those housewives had been fans of *Crackerjack* as girls.

Determined to broaden his range to include comedy acting, Crowther also starred in situation comedies, such as the successful *My Good Woman*, with Sylvia Syms, and the less successful *The Reluctant Romeo*, with Eunice Gayson. He had several of his own series in the 1970s, among them *The Saturday Crowd*, *Crowther's In Town* and *The Leslie Crowther Show*.

His years at the top, on the stage as well as radio and television, made him wealthy. At his peak he was reputed to be earning £300,000 annually from his showbusiness work and another £40,000 a year from his enduring television commercial for margarine, in which he challenged tasters to tell it from butter.

He and his wife Jean developed a love of antiques, and they regularly drove to auctions in his Rolls-Royce looking for new pieces to add to their collection. He would refer drily to his Georgian mansion near Bath as being more like the Victoria and Albert Museum than the family home. When he was featured as a "victim" on television's *This is Your Life*, the host Eamonn Andrews stepped out of a sedan chair at an antiques exhibition to confront Crowther with the famous red book containing his life story.

Leslie Douglas Sargent Crowther, an only child, was born in West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, of parents who were both in showbusiness. His mother was a stage manager and director and his father a character actor and comedian, although he later retired from the stage to work in the post office. The family moved to London so that Crowther could study piano after he won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music.

The parents saw their son act in a play at Thames Valley Grammar School, decided he was a natural exhibitionist, and sent him to drama school, where he met fellow student Jean Stone. They worked together as Jean and Leslie in the once popular *Ovaltineys* radio programme; the couple were married in 1954. Crowther's first job after graduation was as a spear carrier in doublet and hose at the Open Air Theatre in London's Regent's Park, followed by another radio show called *Accent on Youth*.

Then came years of steady work touring with the Fol-de-Rols concert party, which featured the likes of Arthur Askey and Jack Warner, and where Crowther acquired the skills which turned him into the reliable all-round performer he became, able to sing, dance and be funny. The experience proved, as he would often observe, a sound basis for his radio and television success, as well as the stage and cabaret circuit.

For a man who seemed to be a naturally amiable optimist with a gift for quick-fire humour, he had more than his share of sadness and setbacks in his private life, occasionally finding himself in the headlines for unhappy reasons.

One such occasion was when his daughter Caroline's marriage to the late Thin Lizzy rock star Phil Lynott broke up because of Lynott's drug addiction. Crowther himself confessed to becoming at one time a "binge drinker", largely because of the pressure of his workload. He entered a drying-out clinic and was able to give up drinking and a heavy smoking habit completely.

Following the death of Lynott, Crowther strongly condemned what he called the "mindless killers" who peddle drugs. He worked prodigiously for charity and would attend as many as four functions a week. Only if he thought an organisation could afford it would he charge a fee, which would in turn go to one of his own favourite charities, usually linked with the Lord's Taverners, of which he was a former president. In 1993 he was appointed CBE for his charity work.

His favourite interests outside of showbusiness were cricket — playing and watching — and adding to two of his valuable collections: Victorian pot lids that once covered products ranging from tooth powder to meat paste, and the *Vanity Fair* series of cricketing cartoons by Spy.

His absorption with cricket bordered on the fanatical; he even bought himself a flat overlooking Lord's. Referring to his playing days, he coined his own cricketing epitaph: "Good catcher, shame about the batting".

Leslie Crowther, who could look almost scholarly in the heavy-rimmed spectacles he wore off-screen, recognised that he was in a bitchy profession — as he wryly remarked, some people would ensure that you never missed reading a bad review about yourself. Yet he remained popular and well respected as a hard-working professional, with many close friends in the business.

He regularly starred in pantomime and summer seasons, and in the stage version of the *Black and White Minstrels* at London's Victoria Palace. He once recalled a chilling experience when he forgot the punchline to a joke while appearing before the Queen Mother at the Royal Variety Performance: "I just turned towards her and said, 'Wouldn't it be a better idea to play the piano instead of finishing the story?' "

He wrote many of his own scripts, devising jokes while driving to his next engagement; he estimated 25 miles to one good joke. As a funnyman he was a realist. He once said: "If you're over-tired, doing your act automatically, or you are under-rehearsed, it shows. I've watched my failures and I don't like it. You keep on working if you want things to stay good."

It was while he was driving to a charity appearance in 1992 that Crowther's career nearly came to an end, when his Rolls-Royce overturned on the M5 near Cheltenham. He had two hours of surgery to remove a blood clot and lay in a coma for 17 days. Survival seemed unlikely, but he eventually struggled towards recovery.

In 1994, however, aware that he could no longer meet his own high standards as a performer, he announced his retirement from showbusiness and his intention to spend more time on writing after the publication of his autobiography, *The Bonus of Laughter*. "There will be no more 'Come on downs'," he said, "I suppose you could say I'm hanging up my Crackerjack pen."

His wife, son and four daughters survive him.

NICO COLCHESTER

Nicholas Colchester, OBE, journalist, died of a heart attack on September 25 aged 49. He was born on December 30, 1946.

A BRILLIANT financial journalist, and the man who turned the Mars Bar into a latter-day version of the gold standard, Nico Colchester never quite found an editorial position commensurate with his talents. After 18 successful years at the *Financial Times*, he was beaten to the post of deputy editor — which at the FT was seen as an essential step on the way to the editorship — by his friend Richard Lambert. Then, at *The Economist*, which he joined in 1986 and where he was deputy editor from 1989, he failed to succeed to the top job when Rupert Pennant-Rea left to become Deputy Governor of the Bank of England in 1993. At the time of his sudden death, while out training for a charity marathon in New York, he was editorial director of the Economist Intelligence Unit, a job he did well and which he enjoyed, but one rather different from the two more public posts on which he had earlier set his sights.

The son of the Rev Halsey Colchester — probably the only career officer of the Secret Intelligence Service to become, on retirement, a clergyman of the Church of England — Nicholas Benedick Sparrowe Colchester was educated at Radley and at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he read Engineering and Economics and learnt to fly.

He joined the *Financial Times* direct from Oxford in 1968, after writing a test piece about the state of British Leyland and surviving an interview with the formidable editor, Sir Gordon Newton. Colchester thought he was being employed to write about technology, but on arrival found himself assigned instead to corporate finance. He thrived at the FT, writing with easy authority on a wide range of topics. Key foreign postings followed: first to the paper's New York office, in 1970; then, in 1974, to Bonn.

In 1977 he returned to the FT's London office as financial news editor, and played an important part in the development of foreign market coverage which followed the decision to print a European edition of the paper in Frankfurt. He was able to consolidate this work when he became foreign editor in 1981. Over the next five years he showed himself to be an able administrator, increasing editorial efficiency while boosting the quality of the paper's specialist foreign reporting.

Colchester's own writing during these years combined serious research and considered judgment with a lightness of touch not common in financial journalism. It was at the FT, for instance, that he discovered in the Mars Bar an effective index of inflation, its changes in size and weight ensuring that its value remained constant even in times of rising prices.

In 1986, on the retirement of M.H "Fredy" Fisher, Geoffrey Owen moved into the FT editor's chair. Disappointed at not being appointed to Owen's old post of deputy, Colchester joined *The Economist*, eventually becoming deputy editor to Rupert Pennant-Rea in 1989.

When Pennant-Rea returned to the Bank of England as Deputy Governor in 1993,



Colchester hoped to succeed him as editor. In the end, he was one of two serious candidates; but it was the other, Bill Emmott, who got the job. Colchester moved on to the Economist Intelligence Unit, overseeing its extensive output of reports on international political and economic developments. It was a task he found both demanding and rewarding, and it went some way to compensate for those earlier disappointments.

In the *Economist*'s editorial policy Colchester had found and helped to develop a congenial mix of market economics and pragmatically pro-European thinking. Impatient with Euro-scepticism, he was the co-author of *Europe Relaunched* (1990), and was appointed OBE in 1993 for his writing on the development of the European Union. He was also a Chevalier of the French Order of Merit, and spent part of each year in a much-loved second home in France.

He married in 1976 and is survived by his wife, Laurence Schloesing, and two sons.

PROFESSOR STUART PIGGOTT

Stuart Piggott, CBE, FBA, Abercromby Professor of Prehistoric Archaeology at Edinburgh 1946-1972, died on September 23 aged 86. He was born on May 28, 1910.

STUART PIGGOTT was notable for many things, among them having never taken an undergraduate degree and having been elected to the Abercromby Chair at Edinburgh before obtaining a graduate one. He had worked his way up in British archaeology from being a professional draughtsman to become one of the acknowledged experts on the later prehistory of Europe, and was also an early exponent of the historiography of archaeology.

Piggott's charm and early enthusiasm for prehistoric archaeology attracted the support of established figures such as O.G.S. Crawford, founder of *Antiquity*, and Harold Peake, the leading amateur and author, and he was able to join the staff of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments for Wales.

For five years he gained experience in surveying and recording a wide range of antiquities, and then in 1934 was recruited by Alexander Keiller, the marmalade maker and another distinguished amateur of archaeology, to be Assistant Director of his Morven Institute of Archaeology based at Avebury Manor in Wiltshire. Keiller carried out extensive excavations on the Avebury stone circles and nearby monuments.

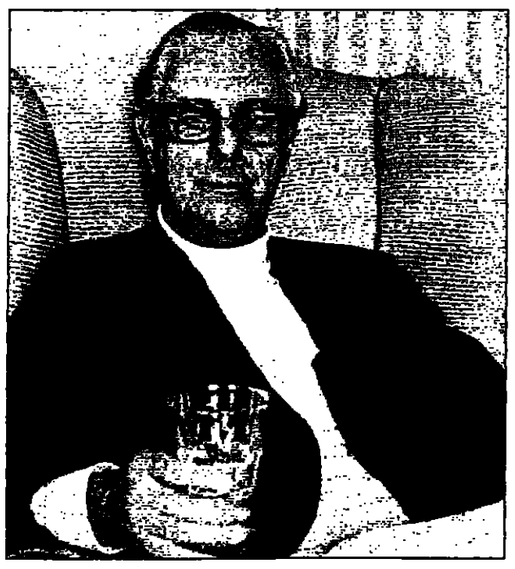
Stuart Piggott had already published a dozen papers in professional journals, including several of national standing, before he was 20, and his study of the Neolithic pottery of the British Isles in the *Archaeological Journal* for 1931 was a seminal work from which ultimately stemmed his major book on *The Neolithic cultures of the British Isles* (1954).

By the time he joined the Army on the outbreak of war, Piggott had more than 70 publications, most of them papers on British neolithic sites and especially their pottery, to his credit: that on *The Early Bronze Age in Wessex*, with its throwaway suggestion of Mycenaean influence on prehistoric Wessex, had a wholly unexpected persistence in its impact.

Joining up in the ranks, Piggott was soon commissioned and transferred to aerial photo interpretation, but for the first part of the war he was based in southern England and continued to do fieldwork at Ram's Hill (in collaboration with his wife Margaret (nee Preston, subsequently Guidol, a childless marriage later dissolved).

In 1942 he was posted to India, where he served under the late Glyn Daniel and later evaded an invitation to work with Mortimer Wheeler, newly appointed Director-General of Archaeology. Piggott ended up in charge of military air-photographic intelligence for South-East Asia, and also assembled the material for two books, *Some Ancient Cities of India* (1946) and *Prehistoric India* 1950), the latter a pioneering synthesis.

On returning to England he went up to St. John's College, Oxford to take a B.Litt: his thesis on the 18th-century antiquary William Stukeley was published in 1950 (and revised in 1985). At the same time, he was invited to succeed V. Gordon Childe as Abercromby Professor of Prehistoric Archaeology at Edinburgh, a post he held until his retirement in 1977; the university



conferred an honorary Litt.D. on him in 1984. He had already received an honorary degree from Columbia University (1954) and been elected to the British Academy (1953), and from 1968-74 was a trustee of the British Museum.

Although he undertook a certain amount of excavation in Scotland, for example at Cairnpapple Hill and the Dalladies Long Barrow, and published a popular book, *Scotland Before History* (1958), Piggott was always happiest working in his native Wessex.

In partnership with Professor Richard Atkinson he undertook major excavations on three key Neolithic sites: Stonehenge, and two megalithic tombs, Wayland's Smithy and the West Kennet Long Barrow. The West Kennet report, which appeared in 1963, was a good example of Piggott's abilities as excavator, draughtsman and author.

His interest in the history of archaeology, begun with Stukeley, continued with a study of William Camden and the *Brittania* (1951) and a number of papers on antiquarian thought later collected in *Ruins in a Landscape* (1977). His book on The Druids (1968) took an historiographical approach to a problem of protohistoric contact, and his work in this field reached fruition in *Ancient Britons and the Antiquarian Imagination* (1989), which portrayed all archaeology prior to the 19th century as casual and sporadic, in contrast to the school of thought which saw a clear intellectual progression from the Renaissance onwards.

Piggott's interest in later prehistory extended into Europe, where his breadth of knowledge was second only to that of Childe. *Ancient Europe* (1965) was a masterly survey of the archaeological evidence "from the beginnings of agriculture to Classical antiquity", and was followed in 1983 by *The First Wheeled Vehicles*, developed out of a 1968 paper for the Prehistoric Society and bringing to Western notice the important early carts and wagons from the Caucasus. A subsequent paper compared early Caucasian chariots with those in China.

His early scepticism about the utility of radiocarbon dating in archaeology soon gave way to both acceptance and a sophisticated use of the chronologies that emerged. He fostered interdisciplinary symposia, and was joint organiser of the Royal Society/British Academy meeting on "The place of astronomy in the ancient world" in 1973.

In the 1950s and early 1960s archaeology became a popular craze with such television programes as *Animal, Vegetable, Mineral?*, and Stuart Piggott was a naturally articulate communicator. Together with the late Glyn Daniel he launched several series of popular books, and edited *The Dawn of Civilization* (1961), the first large-format colour volume to treat this subject in a serious but accessible manner.

Approach to Archaeology (1965) was an introduction to the discipline for the teenager and interested adult, and showed what archaeologists did and why. Unlike many of his colleagues, Stuart Piggott was happily productive outside archaeology: his poems *Fire Among the Ruins 1942-1945* were followed by contributions to *Modern Verse 1900-1950* and by translations of some of Martial's epigrams for Michael Grant's *Roman Readings*.

He was a gregarious, unpompous and hospitable man, and the range of his friendships can be essayed from the Festschrift, offered on his sixty-fifth birthday *To Illustrate The Monuments* (1976), which included a frontispiece by John Piper (of the megalithic tomb of Pentre Ifan in Dyfed), a dedicatory poem by John Betjeman, then Poet Laureate, ending "... I'm glad that I survive/to greet you, Stuart, now you're sixty-five", and papers from both sides of the Iron Curtain and the Atlantic.

The 10th **Viscount Boyne**, of Bridgnorth, Shropshire, Director, National Westminster Bank, 1976-90, Chairman of Ludlow Race Club 1987, left estate valued at £1,881,125 net.

He left to each person employed on the Burwarton Peaton and Baysdale Estates Company or by the trustees of any of his family trusts employed for not less than one year the sum of £300; £500 to the hospital of St John Jerusalem of St John's Gate, London; £2,000 to St John's Council in Shropshire.

Richard Anthony **Bethell**, former Lord-Lieutenant of Humberside, of Long Riston, East Yorkshire, left estate valued at £995,342 net.

Barbara Aileen **Page**, of Surbiton, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,068,468 net.

She left £1,000 to the British Red Cross Society; £5,000 to the Donkey Protection Trust, Sidmouth; her residuary estate to be divided into four equal shares, three for Battersea Dogs' Home and one for the RNLI.

John Stanley **Bishop**, of Farnham Royal, Slough, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,154,316 net.

Howard **Waller**, of Linwood, Ringwood, Hampshire, left estate valued at £984,927 net.

Latest wills

Karl Heinz **Abel**, of Shenstone, Lichfield, Staffordshire, left estate valued at £1,138,784 net.

Nancy Helen **Henagulph**, of Wokingham, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,189,715 net.

She left her residuary estate to be divided into 10 equal shares to the following: Guide Dogs for the Blind, Blue Cross, Spastics Society, Barnardo's, RNLI, Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, National Deaf Children's Society, Woodland Trust, RSPB and the World Wildlife Fund — UK.

Barry James Cameron **Smail**, of Shortheath, Farnham, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,055,482 net.

Derek Herbert **Wright**, dental surgeon, of Watford, Hertfordshire, left estate valued at £1,264,712 net.

He left £1,000 each to RSPCA, NSPCC, Salvation Army, Save the Children and the Cats' Protection League.

Margaret Joan **Hammond**, of Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex, left estate valued at £1,082,186 net.

She left £1,000 to the Donkey Sanctuary, Sidmouth.

Douglas George **Ansell**, of Saltdean, East Sussex, left estate valued at £1,177,891 net.

He left £1,000 to St Nicholas Church, Saltdean; £200 to WAFD/PLAN Delhi and Alzheimer's Disease Society; £100 to Cancer Research Fund, SSAFA, Not Forgotten Association, Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, Action for Blind People, Coppercliff Hospice and the RNLI.

Edgar George **Brassington**, of Sanderstead, Surrey, left estate valued at £4,208,069 net.

He left £1,000 each to the Children's Society, Barnardo's, Greater London Fund for the Blind, British Home and Hospital for Incurables and Arthritis Care; and £10,000 to the Cancer Research Campaign.

Brian Andrew Conder **Whitmee**, of Shipton under Wychwood, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £1,118,729 net.

Joan Veronica **Broome**, of Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £4,333,771 net.

She left £200,000 to Turners Court, Benson, Oxfordshire; £100,000 to the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, for cancer research; £100,000 to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council and the RSPCA; £1,000 each to St Bartholomew's Church, Nettlebed, and the Nettlebed Sports Association; and £2,500 to the Disabled Living Foundation. From the sale of her property not already disposed of to be equally shared between the Sue Ryder Foundation, British Red Cross Society, Shelter, the Samaritans and Age Concern.

Kenneth William **Silk**, of Bramdean, Alresford, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,907,048 net.

Esme Evelyn **Hill**, of Sevenoaks Weald, Kent, left estate valued at £3,609,740 net.

Rachel **Schottlander**, of London NW8, left estate valued at £1,101,225 net.

David **Kurzman**, of London W14, left estate valued at £1,307,574 net.

Valerie Mable **Golding**, of Burwell, Cambridgeshire, left estate valued at £977,330 net.

Maureen Elizabeth Jane **Gaskell**, of Dinas Powis, South Glamorgan, left estate valued at £995,583 net.

START OF NEW B.B.C. PROGRAMME

From Our Broadcasting Correspondent

Another stage in the progress of broadcasting was reached yesterday when the Third Programme became part of the B.B.C. Home Service, thus providing listeners in this country with three contrasting programmes from which to choose their evening's entertainment — a choice wider than any other European broadcasting organization has offered its listeners on the medium wave-band. Since the programme is being radiated by a large number of low-power transmitters in the more densely populated parts of the country, reception was "patchy," and in certain areas unobtainable; but where it was heard in adequate strength the musical quality of reproduction was exceedingly good. In those less-fortunate areas which were to have been covered by the main transmission on 514.6 metres had it not been necessary to reduce the power of the Droitwich station because of interference on that wave-length from "Soviet-Latvia." the BBC hopes soon to provide additional local transmitters so as to bring the Third Programme within reach of the great majority who would wish to hear it ... Sir William Haley, Director General of the three programmes would fit into each other.

ON THIS DAY

September 30, 1946

The Third Programme was the concept of Sir William Haley, who saw it as providing the best in music and the spoken word. That it fulfilled that purpose was due in no small part to Sir George Barnes, its first Controller. Sir William was Editor of The Times *1952-66.*

B.B.C., in an introductory talk on the new programme, said that if the principle behind it were right, it might become one of the most significant steps in the development of broadcasting. "It must not always be playing safe," he said. "It must reflect the world of living as well as dead artists, and stimulate the new as well as sustain the old. It must have the help of the creative artists of to-day."Fears had been expressed that the Third Programme would mean the segregation of all cultural material within it and the elimination of much that was worth-while from the existing services. That was not their intention. The

At this, the first Cannes Festival, British prestige was upheld by Brief Encounter

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

From Our Special Correspondent

CANNES, Sept 28

For a week now the high and handsome cinema in the municipal casino has echoed to the babel of languages, and jury and critics are halfway through a marathon of physical endurance and mental strains. There are two sessions daily, and though the arrangements in general are magnificent in their taste and amplitude there is a tendency for them to break down over detail. Punctuality seems an unattainable virtue. The conscientious cinema goers are in the cinema, with a short break for dinner, from 3 in the afternoon until nearly 2 in the morning. The eye is surfeited with image and the ear is defeated by the ceaseless assault upon it. Nevertheless, much of interest has already fought its way free of the confusion. The British screen has evolved for itself a competent pattern of pseudo-realism, a pattern which encourages insularity, and it is healthy to realize how limited its formulas are. France, so far as artistic achievement is concerned, is well in the lead.

THE TIMES TODAY

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30 1996

NEWS

Clarke tax gaffe is gift to Labour

■ Kenneth Clarke handed Labour a big pre-conference propaganda boost yesterday by suggesting that voters would be "deeply suspicious" of any tax cuts he made in the November Budget.

In astonishingly frank remarks, the Chancellor said people would remember that the Tories promised tax reductions at the last election and were unable to deliver ..... **Pages 1, 8, 9**

Forget the past, says Blair

■ Tony Blair will bury his party's image as the political wing of the trade union movement tomorrow with a speech attempting to establish Labour as the party of enterprise in Britain. In his last Labour conference speech before the General Election, Mr Blair is expected to tell both business and unions to forget the past..... **Pages 1, 8, 9**

Peace talks

Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, and Yassir Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority, are to meet in Washington to try to end the bloodshed engulfing the West Bank and Gaza ..... **Pages 1, 13**

Crowther dies

Leslie Crowther, the children's television favourite who changed course to become one of Britain's leading game show hosts, has died, aged 63 ..... **Page 3**

Private NHS

The NHS has become the largest provider of private healthcare in Britain. In 1995 it earned £225 million from private work, just ahead of the £222.3 million earned by Bupa, its nearest rival..... **Page 2**

Record jockey

Bookmakers lost a record of at least £20 million at Ascot on Saturday after the unprecedented achievement by Frankie Dettori of becoming the first jockey to ride all seven winners at one race meeting..... **Pages 3, 27, 37**

Common law

Professional dog walkers who exercise dozens of pets at a time on Wimbledon Common are being brought to heel..... **Page 3**

Flight of fancy

A British balloonist is building the biggest airship since the Hindenburg and plans a year-long trip around the world..... **Page 5**

Pension fight

The widow of a Spitfire pilot who died 20 years after serving on Christmas Island during Britain's atomic bomb tests, has been refused a war pension and her husband's RAF pension ... **Page 5**

Sect for Ireland

A Hindu sect linked in the 1970s with murder, terrorism and self-mutilation, intends to set up a centre for children in the remote west of Ireland ..... **Page 6**

Labour battle

Baroness Castle of Blackburn rejected a compromise deal aimed at preventing a battle over pensions at the Labour Party conference..... **Page 9**

Legal aid purge

A Labour government would "bear down hard" on legal aid costs, tackling the 1 per cent of big cases that consume almost half of the criminal legal aid budget, the Shadow Lord Chancellor told the Bar Conference ..... **Page 10**

Afghan ordeal

The veil is descending once more on Kabul, the broken capital of what is left of Afghanistan as Taleban invaders impose strict Islamic law..... **Page 11**

Great minds

A "Dictionary of French Intellectuals" will be published in France this week, offering a 1,300-page guide to the great Gallic minds of the past 100 years ..... **Page 12**

Psychiatric tests for barking attacker

■ A dog has been sent for psychiatric tests by a New York judge after it attacked its owners' granddaughter on her second birthday. Becky Bear, a white-coated akita dog, left the girl scarred and her parents, both lawyers, are claiming damages. The judge hoped an animal bahaviourist would discover if the dog was usually savage ..... **Page 12**

MIKE HEWITT/ALLSPORT



Ocean Rover attacks the waves off Southampton yesterday at the start of the BT Global Challenge Yacht Race. **Pages 27, 37**

BUSINESS

Labour's finances: After pumping in the equivalent of £100 million since the Labour Party was last in office, Britain's trade unions are now diminishing minority contributors, a study reveals for *The Times* ..... **Pages 46, 48**

Energy deal: The director of the Gas Consumers' Council has welcomed a possible deal for British Gas to sell its supply operations in Scotland and the North region to Scottish Hydro, which would become another multi-utility company..... **Page 48**

Debt relief: Uganda may be the first beneficiary of a British-devised debt relief plan agreed in Washington, despite sniping on the sidelines between Germany and the United States ..... **Page 48**

ARTS

Thumbs down: Despite Ted Hughes's excellent translation of *Blood Wedding*, the Young Vic's new production of Lorca's classic play fails to be a success ... **Page 18**

Acting playwright: Having taken a minor role in the original Abbey production of his play *The Cavalcaders*, playwright Billy Roche now moves to centre stage at the Everyman Palace, Cork **Page 18**

Opera double: Excellent young singers make Welsh National Opera's revival of *La Bohème* a cause for celebration; the Orchestra of the Opera National de Lyon brings a concert staging of *Werther* to the Barbican ..... **Page 18**

Dancing happy: Birmingham Royal Ballet unveils two world premieres..... **Page 19**

FEATURES

Party man: Boris Bibikov, a dedicated Communist from Ukraine, was shot for crimes against the State. Owen Matthews went to Kiev in search of the truth behind his grandfather's execution **Page 15**

My generation: As she approaches her fiftieth birthday, Bel Mooney comes to terms with the guilt of her free-wheeling generation — and decides to become a middle-aged woman with attitude .. **Pages 16, 17**

MIND AND MATTER

Escape route: Scientists are beginning to suspect that a person's chances of surviving a disaster may be shaped by more than just luck. They are even beginning to wonder if there may be such a phenomenon as a natural-born survivor **Page 14**

SPORT

Racing: Frankie Dettori displayed sublime gifts in rewriting the sport's record books with his remarkable seven victories at Ascot on Saturday ..... **Pages 32, 33.**

Football: Liverpool established a three-point lead at the top of the FA Carling Premiership with a 2-1 victory at West Ham. In yesterday's other match, Manchester United, the reigning champions, moved up to third place by beating Tottenham Hotspur 2-0 at Old Trafford..... **Pages 25, 29.**

Sailing: Gale-force winds greeted the 14 crews competing in the BT Global Challenge when the race got underway in the Solent yesterday..... **Page 27.**

Rugby Union: Honours were shared in the eagerly-awaited meeting of Newcastle and Richmond — the two big-spending clubs in the Courage Clubs Championship. The match finished 20-20 ..... **Page 35.**

Golf: Per-Ulrik Johansson resisted a strong challenge from Constantino Rocca to win the Smurfit European Open tournament at the K Club in Dublin..... **Page 26.**

LOTTERY NUMBERS

19, 26, 23, 39, 36, 31. Bonus: 3. Four tickets win £2,657,056, according to preliminary estimates. Fifteen win £218,014 for five numbers plus the bonus; 765 win £2,671 for five numbers; 48,449 with four will receive £92; and 1,045,121 win £10 each for three numbers.

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Alice is a wolf clothed as an attractive librarian. *Wilderness* (ITV 9pm). **Review:** Peter Barnard finds God easier to understand, *Heart of the Matter* ..... **Page 47**

OPINION

Conference dinosaurs

No wonder old Labour activists sense that the climate is inhospitable to their survival ..... **Page 21**

Nato exercise

Nato enlargement is a neat way of keeping the EU door shut. This is a policy of historic irresponsibility, outranking the fumbling while the Balkans drifted into war ... **Page 21**

Historic jockey

Frankie Dettori has galloped into that narrow track of sporting history, even for those short-sighted fools who bet nothing on his historic record..... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The Republicans have two weapons with which to fight Bill Clinton. The first is money and the second is Bill Clinton ..... **Page 20**

MATTHEW PARRIS

Many of us grow increasingly weary of the edginess and thin skin of our politicians. They don't seem to be able to take it. Kenneth Clarke has only to feel the ladylike imprint of Anna Ford's elbow and Dr Mawhinney runs off squealing to John Birt: "Your Anna's bullied my Ken in the playground." ..... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

Leslie Crowther, entertainer; **Professor Stuart Piggott**, archaeologist; **Nico Colchester**, journalist..... **Page 23**

LETTERS

Cabinet split on Euro currency; The days when the train took the strain; Support for Bhutto; Organ music; Trial by jury; Prince of Wales's hard work..... **Page 21**

THE WORLD

Najibullah was the guest of the UN forces in Kabul for years, taking refuge from the Kabul government which had condemned him to death. It was therefore the UN's *responsibility to avoid his murder*. But the UN failed, and the indignation expressed by the UN headquarters in Geneva is a laughable example of diplomatic hypocrisy.

— La Repubblica

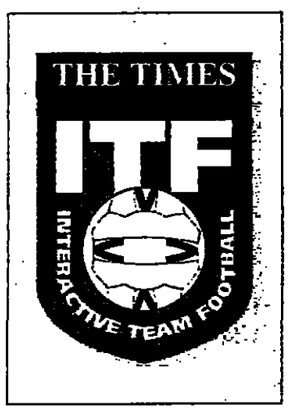


TOMORROW

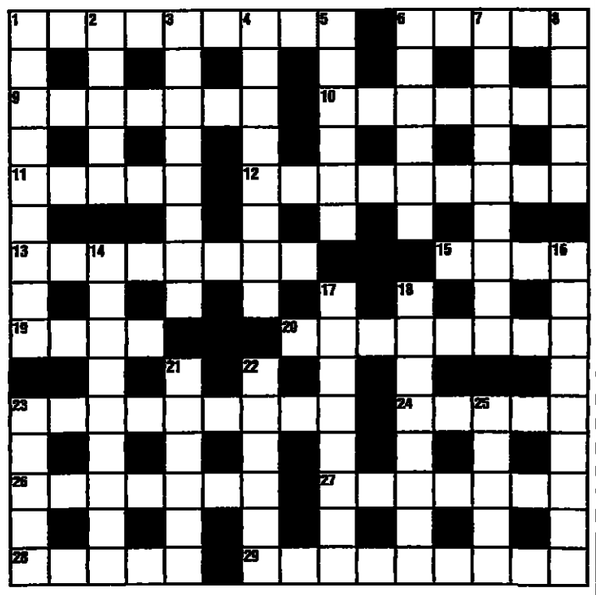
IN THE TIMES

■ **ARTS**
From screen to stage: Hollywood funny man Gene Wilder hits the West End

■ **SPORT**
See how your Interactive Team Football players are performing



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,286



ACROSS

1 Blower's device for off-peak calls (9).
6 Subject of the Crown in charge (5).
9 Submitted account that's overdue, in debt (7).
10 Animal accommodated in unopened sty, not stable (7).
11 Charming woman can make us react nervously, losing head (5).
12 Excellently performing worker, he reports (9).
13 Taken in and given bread when in dire need (8).
15 Seed pearl, perhaps, found round end of oyster (4).
19 Attractive girl's ruin? (4).
20 Runaway animals found, and rest moved inside (8).
23 Haggle about tip for drinks attendant (9).
24 Stupidly create endless suspicion (5).
26 Stir when a wicket is taken without appeal (7).
27 To continue requesting first-class return is a bloomer (7).
28 Compensating material can be extracted therefrom (5).
29 English flier joins up with colleague, for unlimited period (9).

DOWN

1 What's the point of a quarrel? (9).
2 Conductor of a sanctimonious assembly (5).
3 Teachers taking form in this briefly (8).
4 US veteran's grandfather clock? (3-5).
5 Not supposing that gallery finally put in picture (6).
6 Schools give working group high points (6).
7 Bar admitting a legal beginner? That's common (9).
8 Being keen on exercising, vault (5).
14 Relief column held in check (9).
16 Soldier of fortune showing compassion about near-disaster (9).
17 Subsist on fertile land within pleasant range (8).
18 SHAPE or other military headquarters? (8).
21 Scholar breaking restriction required to stay behind (6).
22 Stick poster above this place (6).
23 It's a metal club that is missing (5).
25 Liberal support for article shown up again in record (5).

The National Final of The Times Aberlour Crossword Championship is next Saturday, October 5 at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel starting at 2pm.

Times Two Crossword page 48

ABERLOUR

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,285 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Som's	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heredds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall *is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.*

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	738
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	736
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch *is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times*

MOON AND TIDES

Sun rises: 7.00 am — Sun sets: 6.40 pm

Moon sets 10.51 am — Moon rises 8.38 pm

Last quarter October 4

London 6.40 pm to 7.02 am
Bristol 6.50 pm to 7.11 am
Edinburgh 7.50 pm to 7.16 am
Manchester 6.46 pm to 7.11 am
Penzance 7.02 pm to 7.22 am

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Air UK

FORECAST

☐ Most of England and Wales will have sunshine at times with blustery showers, heaviest in western areas. Southernmost counties cloudy with some persistent rain, clearing during the evening.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny spells and blustery showers.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, SW England, Channel Isles:** Mostly cloudy with some persistent rain. Wind west to southwesterly fresh or strong, moderating at times. Max 17C to 18C (63F to 64F).

☐ **E Anglia, Midlands:** Rather cloudy with some patchy rain in far south. Wind southwesterly mainly fresh. Max 16C to 17C (61F to 63F).

☐ **E, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth:** Mainly dry with bright or sunny spells. Wind southwesterly moderate or fresh locally strong. Max 15C to 17C (59F to 63F).

☐ **Wales, NW England, Lakes, IoM, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: N Ireland,** Sunny spells and blustery showers, some heavy. Wind southwesterly fresh to strong. Max 15C to 17C (59F to 63F).

☐ **NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Sunny spells and blustery showers, some heavy. Wind west or southwest strong to near gale. Max 13C to 15C (55F to 59F).

☐ **Outlook:** Sunshine and showers on Tuesday, becoming mostly dry and sunny on Wednesday.

UK WEATHER YESTERDAY

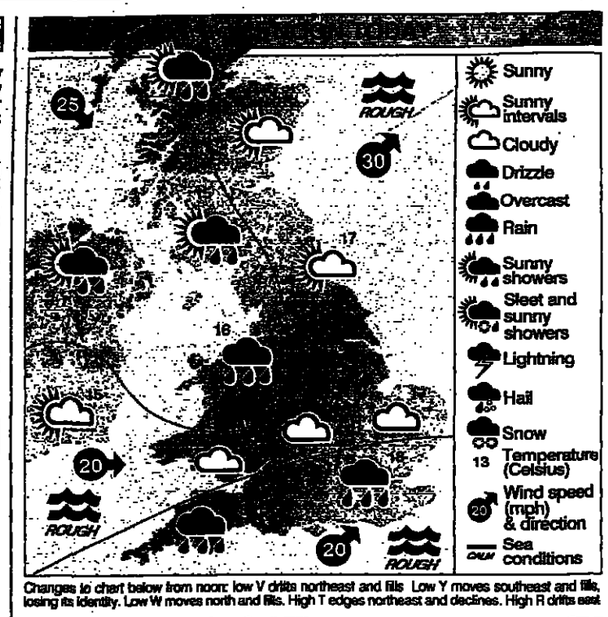
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F		Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.0	0.09	16	61	c	London	-	0.04	18	64	r
Aberdyfs	0.1	1.29	13	55	r	Lowestoft	0.6	0.13	20	68	r
Aviemore	1.8	0.38	14	57	sh	Manchester	0.1	1.05	17	63	r
Belfast	0.4	0.45	13	55	r	Margate	-	0.02	19	66	du
Birmingham	0.9	0.15	21	70	r	Minehead	0.1	0.40	19	66	sh
Bognor R	-	0.06	17	63	r	Morecambe	-	2.02	16	61	r
Bournem'th	-	0.02	17	63	d	Newcastle	-	0.12	14	57	r
Bristol	-	0.70	18	65	r	Norwich	-	0.15	19	66	d
Buxton	-	1.45	17	63	r	Oxford	0.2	0.20	19	66	r
Cromer	0.4	0.17	20	68	sh	Penzance	X	0.07	18	64	r
Dunbar	1.3	0.15	15	59	b	Prestatyn	X	0.67	18	64	r
Eastbourne	-	0.02	17	63	d	Ross-o-wye	0.2	0.29	19	66	r
Edinburgh	1.4	0.27	15	59	c	Ryde	-	X	17	63	d
Eskdalemuir	0.2	1.81	11	52	r	Salcombe	-	0.05	17	63	c
Exmouth	0.1	0.01	18	64	c	Sandown	-	0.07	17	63	d
Falmouth	0.5	0.05	17	63	d	Saunin Snd	-	0.27	17	63	r
Folkestone	0.3	0.03	16	61	d	Scarboro'	-	0.16	16	61	r
Glasgow	2.3	0.03	15	59	b	Shanklin	-	0.09	17	63	d
Guernsey	0.6	0.01	20	68	c	Shrewsbury	0.7	0.24	20	68	r
Hastings	-	0.04	18	64	c	Skegness	-	0.02	21	70	c
Hayling I.	-	0.03	17	63	r	Southport	0.3	1.17	16	61	r
Hove	-	0.01	17	63	r	Southsea	-	0.03	17	63	c
Hunstanton	1.4	0.19	21	70	c	Stornoway	6.4	0.61	13	55	sh
Isle of Man	-	0.59	14	57	r	Swanage	-	0.01	17	63	d
Jersey	0.8	-	19	66	c	Teignmouth	1.3	0.02	18	64	d
Kinloss	2.6	0.11	15	59	c	Tiree	5.6	0.52	15	59	sh
Leeds	-	0.47	17	63	r	Torquay	-	0.28	17	63	r
Lerwick	8.7	0.50	13	55	sh	Ventnor	-	0.04	18	61	d
Leuchars	2.2	0.17	15	59	b	West-s-mare	-	0.59	20	68	sh
Littlehmptn	-	0.07	17	63	r	Weymouth	-	0.01	17	63	c

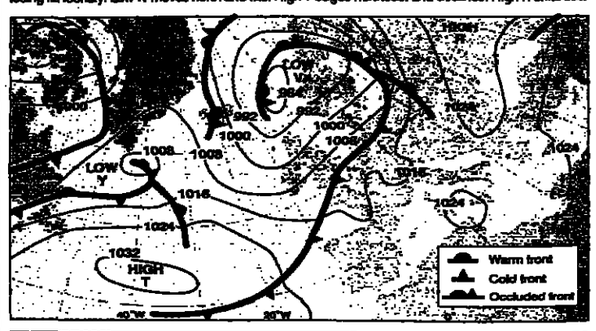
ABROAD

Ajaccio	22	72	s	C'phagn	12	54	c	Malta	23	73	f
Alicante	25	77	c	Dublin	16	61	f	Melb'rne	19	66	f
Alex'dria	27	81	c	Dubrovnik	21	70	s	Mexico C	19	66	f
Algiers	25	77	s	Faro	28	82	s	Miami	31	88	c
Amst'dm	15	59	r	Florence	22	72	s	Milan	21	70	s
Athens	23	73	f	Frankfurt	14	57	f	Montreal	17	63	fg
B Aires	18	64	f	Funchal	X			Moscow	3	37	s
Bahrain	35	95	s	Geneva	17	63	s	Munich	15	59	c
Bangkok	X			Gibraltar	22	72	s	N Delhi	34	93	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Helsinki	8	46	c	N York	23	73	s
Barcelona	24	75	f	Hong K	30	86	c	Nairobi	23	73	f
Beirut	28	82	s	Innsbruck	15	59	c	Naples	23	73	f
Belgrade	17	63	f	Istanbul	17	63	f	Nice	22	72	s
Berlin	14	57	c	Jeddah	36	97	s	Oslo	11	52	r
Bermuda	26	79	s	Jo'burg	23	73	f	Paris	19	66	f
Biarritz	X			L Angels	21	70	f	Peking	24	75	f
Borde'x	22	73	s	L Palmas	25	77	f	Perth	16	61	f
Brussels	16	61	c	Le Touq't	17	63	f	Prague	13	55	f
Budapst	19	66	s	Lisbon	27	81	s	Reykjavik	8	46	c
Cairo	32	90	s	Locarno	19	66	s	Rhodes	23	73	s
Cape Tn	16	61	f	Luxembg	15	59	f	Rio de J	23	73	f
Ch'church	12	54	X	Luxor	38	102	s	Riyadh	37	99	s
Chicago	12	54	f	Madrid	26	82	s	Rome	24	75	s
Cologne	15	59	c	Majorca	24	75	f	S Fr'isco	15	59	c
Corfu	23	73	s	Malaga	25	77	s	S Paulo	21	70	c
Salzburg	17	63	f
Santiago	24	75	s
Seoul	26	79	s
Sing'por	X		
St'kholm	12	54	c
Siresh'rg	17	63	f
Sydney	21	70	s
Tangier	28	82	s
Tel Aviv	30	86	s
Tenerife	25	79	c
Tokyo	23	73	f
Toronto	13	55	c
Tunis	24	75	f
Valencia	25	77	s
Vanc'ver	14	57	c
Venice	21	70	f
Vienna	17	63	s
Warsaw	11	52	c
Wash'ton	23	73	c
Wel'ngton	13	55	X
Zurich	15	59	f

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low V drifts northeast and fills. Low Y moves southeast and fills, losing its identity. Low W moves north and fills. High T edges northeast and declines. High R drifts east



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3:30	7.5	3:43	7.5	Leith	4:15	5.9	4:41	5.7
Aberdeen	2:48	4.5	3:16	4.3	Liverpool	0:44	9.8	1:05	9.4
Avonmouth	9:02	13.7	9:21	13.6	Lowestoft	11:12	2.7	11:38	2.4
Belfast	0:43	3.7	1:08	3.6	Margate	1.47	4.9	1:57	5.0
Cardiff	8:56	12.6	9:16	12.3	Milford Haven	7:57	7.2	8:17	7.1
Devonport	7:40	5.6	7:57	5.5	Newquay	6:47	7.0	7:07	6.8
Dover	0:28	6.9	12:55	7.0	Oban	7:13	4.0	7:36	4.0
Dublin (N Wall)	0:53	4.2	1:24	4.0	Penzance	6:21	5.7	6:40	5.7
Falmouth	7:06	5.2	7:25	5.2	Portland	9:38	2.2	9:56	2.2
Greenock	2:13	3.8	2:28	3.7	Portsmouth	0:55	4.8	1:19	4.8
Harwich	1:24	4.2	1:36	4.2	Shoreham	0:57	6.5	1:17	6.5
Holyhead	-	-	12:06	5.7	Southampton	0:14	4.8	12:38	4.7
Hull (Albert D)	7:54	8.2	8:17	7.6	Swansea	8:08	9.8	8:28	9.7
Ilfracombe	7:49	9.6	8:09	9.5	Tees	5:14	5.7	5:40	5.4
King's Lynn	7:57	7.2	8:19	6.9	Walton-on-Naze	1:23	4.4	1:37	4.4

Crown copyright reserved. All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Cranwell, and Coningsby, Lincolnshire, 22C (72F); lowest day max: Spadeadam, Cumbria, 11C (52F); highest rainfall: Capel Curig, Aberconwy, and Conwy, 4.41in; highest sunshine: Lerwick, Shetland, 8.7hr.

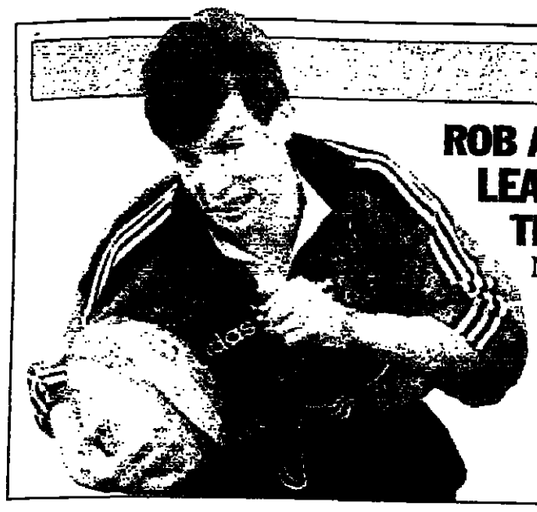


RNLI RESCUE UPDATE — 30 SEPTEMBER 1996

Total number of lives saved so far this year:	661
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year:	3,209
Cost to RNLI per day:	£173,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

RNLI Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Reg. Charity No. 209603

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ROB ANDREW LEADS THE PACK
Newcastle and Richmond share spoils
PAGE 35

THE HEAD-ON CRUNCH
Rangers re-open old wounds
PAGE 31
Full results and coverage

ROUND THE WORLD
Chay Blyth launches his Global Challenge
PAGE 27



TIMES SPORT

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30 1996

United get value for money from Norwegian striking gem

Solskjaer sparkles with quality

Manchester United.....2
Tottenham Hotspur.....0

BY DAVID MILLER

A SMALL club in Norway's western fjords is an unlikely source for a solution to Alex Ferguson's deep embarrassment at the failure of Andy Cole. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, a snip at £1.5 million from little-known Molde, scored two goals against Tottenham Hotspur yesterday, the first with classic skill, that hold the promise of memorable deeds to come at Old Trafford and elsewhere.

After all those painful moments when openings flew astray off the knees or shins of the unfortunate Cole, Solskjaer's opening goal six minutes before half-time was a knife in Tottenham's heart. There is youthful innocence in the pale northern face of this 23-year-old, yet the manner in which he stole past Campbell to meet and control a dropping cross from Giggs, then feinted to put Walker, in goal, off guard before sweeping the ball beyond his reach was reminiscent of the great Scandinavian forwards of the past, such as Nordahl and Simonsson.

The authority of his lethal finishing made less significant the quiet performance of Cantona, for whom captaincy is clearly not a benefit but seemingly a diversion from his natural role as Scarlet Pimpernel, free of collective responsibility. He is essentially a player to inspire by deed rather than instruction.

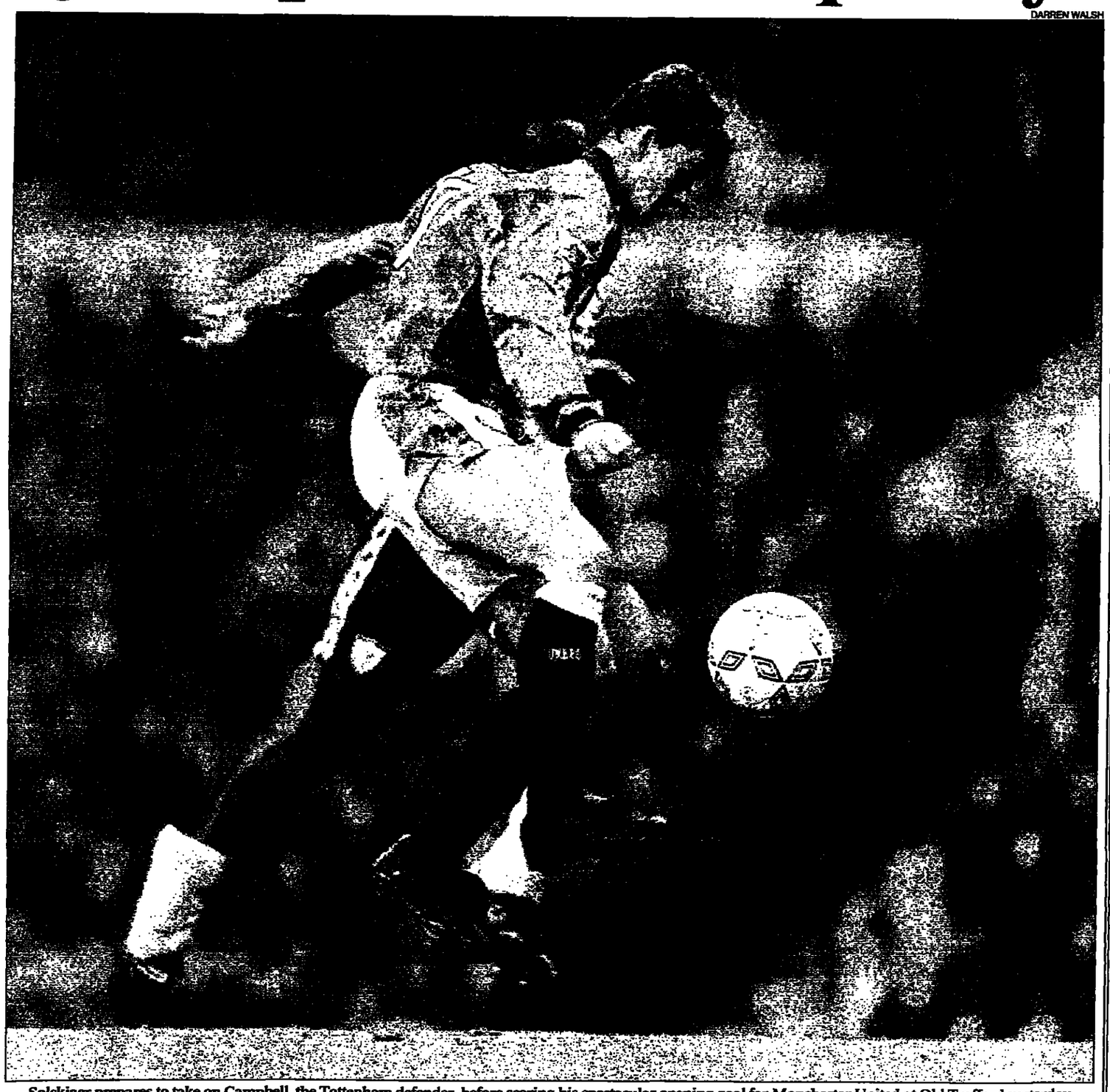
Solskjaer's goals bring his tally to five (including one against Rapid Vienna in the European Cup Champions' League), in eight appearances, four of those as a substitute. On this evidence, Ferguson need lose no sleep about Alan Shearer having preferred to join Newcastle United, quite apart from having saved a tidy sum. Shearer is unlikely to score a goal as masterful as Solskjaer's first if he plays until he is 50. Meanwhile Cole, regularly on display on the sale shelf as substitute, may conveniently tempt some Nationwide League first division manager with ambition and, if Ferguson is lucky, a spare million or two.

Yesterday's match, which Manchester won comfortably to move into third position, might have been decided by a wider margin, yet that would have obscured much intelligent play by a hard-pressed Tottenham team, which was missing the services of Mabbutt, Anderton and Armstrong. Indeed, the visitors might have scored first and had two desperate near-misses after the second goal arrived 12 minutes into the second half.

For a quarter of an hour at the start, so swift, fluid and accurate was Manchester's passing, the ball flowing between Beckham, Cantona and Butt to Giggs on one flank or Poborsky, that bounding little pinball, on the other, that Tottenham were playing hunt-the-thimble. Whenever they thought they had found the ball, in an instant it had exasperatingly disappeared again. Yet Walker's competence in goal and some last-ditch tackling by Campbell, Calderwood and Wilson served to keep the opposition at arms' length. When, after 20 minutes, Poborsky skated round Wilson, came in along the byline towards the post and rolled the ball back into the path of Giggs, the local hero lofted the ball high and wide.

Liverpool go clear 28
Laboured Arsenal 29
Steve McManaman 29
Results and tables 30
Celtic suffer 31

DARREN WALSH



Solskjaer prepares to take on Campbell, the Tottenham defender, before scoring his spectacular opening goal for Manchester United at Old Trafford yesterday

Soon, at the other end, from a long cross by Fox, Howells had a half-chance, but, instead of heading the ball downwards prior to shooting, he controlled it with his upper arm and was booked for protesting his innocence. Legal or not, his shot had left Schmeichel well beaten. Back came Manchester with another series of attacks, from one of which Solskjaer, as calm as you like, scored the goal that lifted a crowd of nearly 55,0000 out of their seats.

For the second half, Ferguson replaced Giggs, suffering from an ankle injury, with Cruyff. As they had at the beginning of the first half, United began to run their opponents dizzy. After a move begun by Cruyff on the left and swinging right, a final diagonal low pass from Butt was met by Solskjaer, coming in wide of the left post, and the ball was driven low and hard into the only gap beyond Walker, just inside the right post. Another slick goal.

Manchester might have gone further ahead with a sharp drive by Butt, deflected away by Walker, while Cruyff, with a nimble sidestep, opened a gap for a shot that was also deflected clear.

Throughout the match, Gary Neville, never mind his international colours, had regularly found himself extended by the pace of Sinton and it was down the left that Tottenham's hopes for a revival lay. Nevertheless, it was not until six minutes from time that Sinton's long dribble opened the way for Sheringham, who was slow to respond and had his eventual shot turned away for a corner by Schmeichel. Before the end, Walker had to save again from Butt. One of the contributors to a fine match had been Gary Willard, the referee, handling every indiscretion with an even hand.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-1-1): P Schmeichel — G Neville, D May, G Pallister, D Irwin — K Poborsky (sub: P Scholes, 84min), N Butt, D Beckham, R Giggs (sub: J Cruyff, 46) — E Cantona — O G Solskjaer

TOTTENHAM HOSTPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S Carr, C Calderwood, S Campbell, C Wilson — R Fox (sub: R Ronsenthal, 84), D Howells (sub: J Edinburgh, 70), A Nielsen, A Sinton — E Sheringham, R Allen

Referee: G Willard.



Dettori: seven up

Magnificent seven gives Dettori a perfect day

FRANKIE DETTORI'S feat of riding all seven winners at Ascot on Saturday — at accumulative odds of 25,095-1 — on one of the most keenly contested cards of the year was the greatest performance from the saddle ever seen.

PAGE

2.00 Wall Street (2-1 fav)
Dettori shows brilliant judgment of pace and a cool head in a tight finish to make all the running on the Godolphin-owned colt.

PAGE

2.35 Diffident (12-1)
Dettori shows split-second timing in a six-furlong sprint to win by a head, on a difficult ride, from the hot favourite, Lucayan Prince.

PAGE

3.20 Mark Of Esteem (100-30)
In big race of the day, the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, Dettori daringly waits for a gap to gain a stunning victory.

PAGE

3.55 Decorated Hero (7-1)
Backed from morning odds of 14-1, Dettori has a difficult task under top weight in the day's big handicap, but wins comfortably.

PAGE

4.30 Fatefully (7-4 fav)
Dettori comes from off the pace to take up the running a furlong out in this valuable race. Once ahead, the filly stops concentrating and needs firm persuasion.

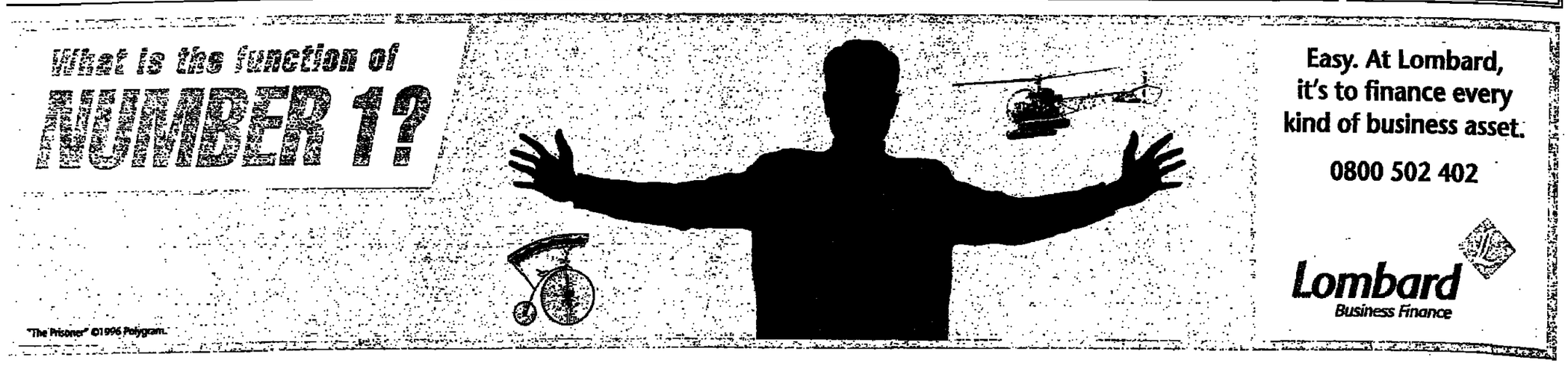
PAGE

5.00 Lochangel (5-4 jt-fav)
Lochangel looks inexperienced on only her second visit to the racecourse, but Dettori's confidence passes down the reins and she comes home an easy winner.

PAGE

5.35 Fujiyama Crest (2-1 fav)
By now, Fujiyama Crest, who would otherwise be five times the odds, is hot favourite. Dettori comes home with a magnificent display of front-running.

Julian Muscat, page 33



IN BRIEF

Zulle leads Swiss to clean sweep in Spain

ALEX ZULLE won the Tour of Spain cycle race yesterday, from Laurent Dufaux and Tony Rominger, his Swiss compatriots. Zülle took a lead of more than six minutes into the 22nd and final stage — a 110-mile leg that started and ended in Madrid and was won by Tom Steels, of Belgium.

Zülle's task had been made easier when Miguel Induráin, the five-times winner of the Tour de France, dropped out after being left behind in the mountains for two days in succession. It was a first Tour of Spain victory for Zülle, who captured the overall lead when the race had barely reached halfway.

Sampras at ease

Tennis: Pete Sampras, the world No 1, cruised to his seventh tournament win of the season with a straight-sets victory over Hendrik Dreekmann, of Germany, at the Swiss indoor championship in Basle yesterday. Sampras won 7-5, 6-2, 6-0 to capture his 43rd career title and kept his record intact of having won all the finals in which he has appeared this year.

Kenyan one-two

Athletics: Kenyan domination of British road running continued when Christophere Kelong and Raphael Nziku staged a sprint finish along Princes Street in the Bupa Great Caledonian 10-kilometre race in Edinburgh yesterday. Kelong was just given the verdict, though they shared the winning time of 29min 11sec.

Icy silence

Ice hockey: Ian Cooper scored the only goal as Cardiff Devils beat Nottingham Panthers 1-0 in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final first leg on Saturday. It was the lowest scoring game in Great Britain since Ayr Raiders and Edinburgh Royals drew 0-0 in 1953.

Manly effort

Rugby league: Manly Warringah won their sixth Australian championship and first since 1987 in beating Sydney St George 20-8 in the Sydney Grand Final yesterday. Six of the side have been named in the Australia team to meet Papua next Sunday.

Jackson decisive

Hockey: A goal by Chris Jackson 13 minutes from time gave Ireland a 2-1 victory over Scotland in their opening match of the men's World Cup preliminary round in Cagliari, Sardinia, yesterday.

Presenting a bad evening with Gary Lineker

TV ACTION REPLAY

Mel Webb on the front man of BBC football who is all over the box on Saturday but who rarely hits the target nowadays

Saturday started well for BBC Sport. They sent Sue Barker to Ascot to interview Frankie Dettori for *Grandstand* and he obliged by being charming, and nice, and ordinary, then proved that he is far from ordinary, if still charming and nice, by winning all seven races. Rumour has it that Ray Harford has invited Barker to come and have a chat with him before Blackburn's next game. Goodness knows, he needs something.

In any case, there are many fates worse than being grilled by Barker, who, for a former tennis player, has turned herself into a pretty decent television broadcaster. She is lively, articulate and obviously at home with the medium. Everything, in fact, that Gary Lineker isn't.

Lest what follows be misinterpreted, let it be stated at once that one has nothing but admiration for Lineker as a human being and a sportsman. He is a bringer of glad tidings to the world and was a truly remarkable footballer. If only he was a truly remarkable practitioner in the televisual arts. Sadly, he is not. Even more sadly, he needs to improve to be mediocre.

Lineker popped up three times on Saturday, once as the presenter in the Beeb's *Football Focus* in *Grandstand*, later as the master of ceremonies in *Match of the Day* and, immediately that was over, as a team captain in *They Think It's All Over*, the laddish quiz programme. On the first two occasions, he wore grey. No colour was more appropriate for his performance.

In a formal setting, Lineker has a style that is less than fluent. When he is the front man, nothing flows, nothing is easy, nothing stops you fidgeting in your seat. All right then, he is wooden. He is quite clearly not at home with the Teleprompter and when the delivery is not as flat as a Lincolnshire landscape, it has the emPHAsis on the wrong syLLAble. In *They Think It's All Over*, he is a clown. In his other role, he is serious. Seriously dreadful.

His performance on Saturday left one yearning for the unutterably wonderful Desmond Lynam. Lynam makes you believe that you are the only one he is talking to. Lineker leaves you with the inescapable feeling that you are the only one who is listening.

Agreed, it is a little unfair to compare Lynam with Lineker. One is an acknowledged master, the other a very raw pupil. Lynam could make his viewer comfortable if watching an action replay of the sinking of the Titanic. Lineker, on the other hand, makes Southampton scoring four goals seem like nothing very remarkable at all. Which, as we all know, it is.

To give him his due, he is not always helped by all those around him, especially when presenting *Match of the Day*. The format of this programme, although cast from stone hewn somewhere in the Middle Ages, still works to a large extent, in that it distils much of the dross out of British football and provides the sporting equivalents of soundbites — goalbites, if you like. There were 15 of them in the latest edition. Alan Hansen, one of Lineker's henchmen on Saturday, is an exception, along with the aforesaid Barker, who proves the rule that successful sports people do not necessarily make successful broadcasters. You only have to watch Andrew Castle, who was once a moderate British tennis player, groping his way haplessly through the maze of PGA European Tour golf on Sky Sports to see the proof of that.

Hansen is a man who is comfortable with television, and is undeniably an expert. If only he would open his mouth a little more, but that is to cavil on behalf of the hard of hearing. Would that Trevor Brooking were as accomplished.

Brooking has one thing going for him and one against. In his favour is his great wisdom, and nobody should discount that. Against him is the fact that he never completes a sentence.

Brooking's dissertation contains fewer full stops, or any other punctuation marks, with the possible exception of the semi-colon, than do those of my revered colleague, Bernard Levin. It is stream of consciousness extended to the ultimate degree. *Stream of* unconsciousness, more like. It is grammatical genocide, socco-babble.

That said, *Match of the Day* is a programme of which the BBC should still, by and large, be proud. It is skilfully shot, expertly edited and immaculately produced, and in many ways knocks spots of its rivals. In the end, it all comes down to the "L" factor. When Lynam's there, it's terrific, when Lineker takes his place, it isn't. And then some. Sorry, Gary.

GOLF

Johansson lands knockout blow in birdie barrage

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, IN DUBLIN

PER-ULRIK JOHANSSON erased memories of a previously dismal season in Europe when he took the Smurfit European Open at the K Club yesterday. The £125,000 the Swede won went some way towards making amends for his poor golf between January and September on his home continent. Though he played well to finish eighth in the US PGA, his best performance previously in Europe had been fourth at the English Open at the beginning of June.

Johansson won his third title in Europe in some style, a last round of 70 for a 72-hole total of 277, 11 under par, being less significant than the fact that, on another wet and windy day, he played the last six holes with great courage and resolve. Three birdies in this stretch took Johansson from one behind Costantino Rocca, who was leading, to level with the Italian and finally to victory by one stroke.

It was clear on such a tough course and in such weather conditions that a strong mind was vital. Bernhard Langer, a man of iron will, won here last year. Johansson has one of the strongest minds on tour and so there was some justice in his victory. "It's tough, this sport," he said. "Sometimes you feel you want to go home and do something else but you must not give up. If you give up easily, perhaps you shouldn't be in it."

Johansson birdied the 13th to get to nine under par and at that point he was level with Rocca who had dropped a stroke on the short 12th. That one stroke apart, Rocca had the look of a winner about him. Ken Brown, the former Ryder Cup player, who now does TV commentary, said Rocca was swinging as well as he had ever seen him and a magnificent two-iron into the teeth of the wind on the 10th seemed to confirm as much. Eyes momentarily searched the sky for it before one realised that Rocca had kept the ball so low that it never got even as high as the tree-line.

But whereas Johansson squeezed three birdies from the last six holes, including one on the 17th, where he sank a ten-foot putt, and then another on the last, which he reached with a four-iron second shot, Rocca could managed only one. He came to the 18th needing a birdie four to tie with Johansson and made his task extremely difficult by hitting his drive into the rough. Rocca's 72 gave him a total of 278.

Roger Chapman produced a remarkable burst of figures, covering his last ten holes in six under par, to post a total of nine under par 35 minutes before Rocca and Paul Broadhurst were due to finish. No one would have quibbled if Chapman, one of the most popular players on tour, had won. He has been a professional since 1981 and though he has had countless chances to win, has yet to do so.

"I am highly delighted with that," Chapman said before he disappeared into the clubhouse to wait and see whether his total could be beaten. He eventually had to settle for a share of third place and a cheque for £42,220.

Although Colin Montgomerie's closing round of 68 was one stroke more than that of Ian Woosnam, the Scot moved a further £2,000 ahead of the Welshman at the top of the order of merit.

Montgomerie led Woosnam by £141,547 at the start of the week and was assured of extending his lead when he finished three under par to Woosnam's one under. It was another workmanlike week for Montgomerie, who edged closer to equalling Peter Oosterhuis's four successive victories in the order of merit.

He flew home halfway through a schedule of ten successive events satisfied, if tired. "I've gained on Ian in each of the last four weeks — Switzerland, the Lancôme, Loch Lomond and now here," Europe's No 1 said. "His 67 was a good score but I have widened the gap."

Now the scene shifts to Berlin where both of them are competing in this week's German Masters. At least, Woosnam probably is. He was complaining of his sore back last week and had treatment in the fitness caravan most mornings. "If my back is half decent, I'll be there," Woosnam said. "I haven't said I won't be there. I have said I might not be there."

One who definitely won't be there is Robert Allenby, the man behind Montgomerie and Woosnam in the order of merit. Having strained ligaments in his left ankle getting into a courtesy car after the event at Loch Lomond last Sunday, the Australian flew to Spain to recuperate, only to be involved in a car accident on Saturday morning. He fractured his sternum and suffered facial injuries. His 1996 season on this continent is over.

DUBLIN DETAILS

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

LEADING FINAL SCORES: 277: P-U Johansson (Swe) 71, 70, 66, 70 278: C Rocca (It) 67, 70, 69, 72, 279: R Chapman 72, 69, 69, 69; A Coltart 71, 69, 69, 71, 280: M A Martin (Sp) 69, 69, 71, 71 281: T Björn (Den) 74, 69, 70, 68; J Payne 68, 69, 72, 72; P Broadhurst 73, 65, 68, 75 282: E Romero (Arg) 73, 71, 70, 68 283: P Haugsrud (Nor) 71, 71, 73, 68, D Robertson 70, 70, 74, 69; M Jonzon (Swe) 68, 74, 70, 71; P Harrington 65, 73, 71, 74 284; J Spence 68, 73, 70, 73; D Hospital (Sp) 72, 73, 70, 69; A Cabrera (Arg) 68, 76, 72, 70; P McGinley 70, 73, 71, 70; M McKenzie 71, 73, 70, 70; R Davis (Aus) 69, 70, 73, 72; A Lyle 73, 69, 70, 72; N Fasth (Swe) 68, 76, 70, 72; B Lane 70, 73, 68, 73; D Cooper 76, 67, 66, 75. 285: C Montgomerie 73, 74, 70, 68; D Clarke 72, 72, 72, 69; L Westwood 70, 72, 73, 70; R Green (Aus) 72, 75, 65, 73; R Russell 70, 70, 72, 73 286: G Nicklaus (US) 71, 71, 74, 70, S Strüver (Ger) 73, 70, 72, 71, D Gilford 75, 71, 68, 72; P O'Malley (Aus) 69, 73, 71, 73 287: I Woosnam 74, 72, 74, 67; S Field 71, 75, 73, 68; T Lehman (US) 74, 69, 73, 71, R Muntz (Hol) 74, 68, 73, 72; R Burns 72, 69, 70, 76.

ALLSPORT



Rocca contemplates the prospect of the title eluding him during the final round

Morley reigns in Germany

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

JOANNE MORLEY, of Great Britain, left the field trailling as she battled through wind and rain to a maiden Tour victory in the German Open in Hamburg yesterday. She shot a closing 68 for an 11-under-par 281 over the Marriott Hotel Treudelberg course, to finish four strokes clear of Maria Hjorth, of Sweden, with Lisa Hackney, the Welsh Open champion, one stroke further behind.

"I have never played better in weather like this," said Morley, who made her debut in the Solheim Cup match a little over a week ago. The Briton had been two strokes off the lead when she started the final round, but was never caught after opening with a hat-trick of birdies.

Barclay Howard, Jody Fanagan, Graham Rankin and Gary Wolstenholme — who were all in the Great Britain and Ireland Walker Cup team that beat the United States at Royal Porthcawl last September — are again in the squad from which the team to defend the trophy at Quaker Ridge, New York, next August, will be named.

Michael Brooks and Keith Nolan have been selected, together with Howard and Wolstenholme, to play for Great Britain and Ireland in the world amateur team championship which begin in the Philippines in November.

SQUAD: M Blackey (Hayling), W Bladon (Kenilworth), M Brooks (Carlisle), M Carver (West Kent), N Edwards (Whitchurch), J Fanagan (Milltown), P Fenton (Huddersfield), A Forsyth (Ralston), B Howard (Cochrane Castle), P Lawrie (UCD & Newlands), S Mackenzie (West Linton), K Nolan (Bray), D Park (Burghill Valley), G Rankin (Palacerigg), G Spring (Tralee), I Taylor (Brynhill), S Webster (Ifield), R Wiggins (Pontefract), G Wolstenholme (Bristol & Clifton), S Young (Inverallochy)

Scores, page 37

SNOOKER

Ebdon on top as McManus falters

BY PHIL YATES

PETER EBDON, runner-up to Stephen Hendry in the Regal Scottish Masters 12 months ago, looked eminently capable of winning this year's tournament when he rallied to lead Alan McManus 4-3 in their best-of-17-frame final at Motherwell yesterday.

Ebdon, whose powers of recovery are renowned, trailed 3-1 before reeling off the closing three frames of the afternoon session. He was left requiring five of the remaining ten in order to capture the fourth title of his career and a first prize of £60,000.

Repeatedly muttering undecipherable oaths to himself, and shaking his head after every errant shot, McManus was ill at ease from the outset. He edged 2-1 ahead by taking a couple of scrappy frames but was extremely fortunate to extend this advantage to 3-1.

McManus, who possesses a far from impressive success rate when he figures in the closing stages of the leading event, found himself 45-23 adrift in the fourth frame when Ebdon missed a tricky red. He cleared to the pink with a run of 53, but only after fluking the second red of the break into a balk pocket.

"I think it's a combination of the fear of losing, allied to a keen desire to win, that helps me focus so strongly when I fall behind," Ebdon said, after his comeback from two down with three to play for an unlikely 6-5 semi-final victory over John Higgins on Saturday.

Ebdon dominated the next two frames. In fact, while he put together well-crafted contributions of 55 and 39, McManus did not pot a single ball.

Ebdon jawed two straightforward reds in the seventh frame but, with McManus continuing to struggle, those mistakes went unpunished and he eventually moved ahead for the first time at 4-3 by clearing from yellow to brown. It was Ebdon's momentum, and McManus's apparent lack of composure, that suggested that the Wellingborough-based Londoner was well placed to prevent a fourth Scottish triumph since the competiton began in 1989.

Nerves affected the outcome of both semi-finals. Higgins, desperate for victory in front of so many family and friends, crumbled badly; McManus, weighed down by a similar burden of expectation, almost suffered an identical fate before beating John Parrott 6-5.

It is the third time this year that Higgins has succumbed to pressure. He lost 9-8 to Nigel Bond in the final of the British Open five months ago after being 69 points ahead with only 67 available in the deciding frame, and 13-12 to Ronnie O'Sullivan in the quarter-finals of the Embassy World Championship after missing a pink when on the threshold of a 13-11 win.

Higgins, 21, was devastated by his latest setback. "I had him ten times and I couldn't put him away." Higgins, who has now beaten Ebdon only once in six meetings, said.

DETAILS

FINAL: P Ebdon (Eng) leads A McManus (Scot) 4-3 Frame scores (Ebdon first) 42-65, 97-22, 28-68, 43-78, 78-0, 72-0, 72-49

SEMI-FINALS: Ebdon bt J Higgins (Scot) 6-5, McManus bt J Parrott (Eng) 6-5

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BASKETBALL

Sheffield rebound from defeat

THE reaction to the Budweiser League's surprising result of the season was just what Jim Brandon wanted (Nicholas Harling writes). The coach of Sheffield Sharks, who had been humbled at home by Chester Jets six days earlier, was delighted to see his squad make Thames Valley Tigers pay with an impressive 105-87 win at Bracknell.

Richard Scantlebury accumulated 23 points to give Crystal Palace an overdue success, their first back in the Budweiser League, beating the Bears 72-70 at Worthing.

Hemel and Watford Royals staged a spirited late rally against Chester, yet still succumbed 93-91 at home. Birmingham Bullets beat Derby Storm 84-78 in the Midland derby while Manchester Giants made up arrears of 14 points to overcome the Leopards 84-77 in Saturday's other Budweiser League fixture.

HOCKEY: COMFORTABLE VICTORY FOR MEN'S CHAMPIONS AS TROJANS GO DOWN FIGHTING

Slough make the most of golden opportunity

BY ALIX RAMSAY

SLOUGH, winners of four national league titles, are seldom slow to capitalise on their chances but not even they could believe their luck yesterday when they were presented with a golden opportunity to take charge at the top of the premier division.

The former champions were playing Trojans, newly promoted from division one, while Slough's nearest rivals, Hightown and Ipswich, were facing each other in Formby. Or they would have done if the rain had stopped. With the pitch flooded, both sides went home without a ball being struck or a point awarded.

Slough, however, had not bargained for the determination of Trojans, and it needed three goals in the space of three minutes to decide matters. Karen Brown scored from a penalty stroke in the 51st minute, Katheryn James equalised 60 seconds later before Sue Chandler, the Slough captain, secured the 2-1 victory.

Clifton won at Leicester after a flurry of goals in both halves saw them finally edge home 5-4. Purdy Miller put Leicester ahead after 17 minutes only to watch Lucy Culliford equalise and Elaine Bevan give Clifton a 2-1 lead. Sarah Blanks put Leicester back on level terms from a penalty corner but, two minutes later, Culliford struck again for Clifton.

Denise Marston-Smith then put Clifton 4-2 up with the first move of the second half, lofting her penalty corner strike into the corner of the net. Miller got one back for Leicester but Marston-Smith scored again. Two minutes later Miller claimed her hat-trick but by then it was too late.

Crutchley off to flying start

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

ROBERT CRUTCHLEY, who scored 30 goals for Cannock last season, got the National League champions off to a rousing start in the premier division yesterday by hitting the target three times in a 5-1 victory at home to Havant.

The early play was made by Havant, who forced the first short corner in the third minute, but Calum Giles was not there to take it, having agreed to play for a second-division club in Holland instead this season.

Once Cannock settled down, they took control and Lewis, in the Havant goal, was kept busy. Cannock converted their third short corner, after working the ball cleverly to Crutchley, who supplied the finishing touch. Chris Mayer set up the second goal for Pidcock, in the 31st minute, and, a minute later, Parnham converted Cannock's fourth short corner for a 3-0 lead at half-time.

Two minutes into the second half, Crutchley scored from another short corner and added the fifth goal in the 49th minute from a penalty stroke. Ambridge reduced the lead six minutes before the end.

Old Loughtonians achieved the biggest win of another high-scoring day, putting seven goals past Hounslow, who managed only one in reply. Thompson, Lee and Dover scored two goals each for Old Loughtonians.

Gibson's three goals for East Grinstead were not enough against Southgate, for whom Attala scored three goals and Simons one in a 4-3 win. Barford Tigers beat Guildford 6-4, with Dharminder Singh scoring four goals for Barford and Jennings two for Guildford.

A goal in the 54th minute by Evennett enabled Canterbury to snatch a 3-2 win over Reading. Likewise, Cook's goal in the fortieth minute was enough to seal a 4-3 victory for Surbiton over Teddington.

Five teams share the lead of the first division, with maximum points after two games.

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This week's action and news from the NBA * NHL * NFL * MLB

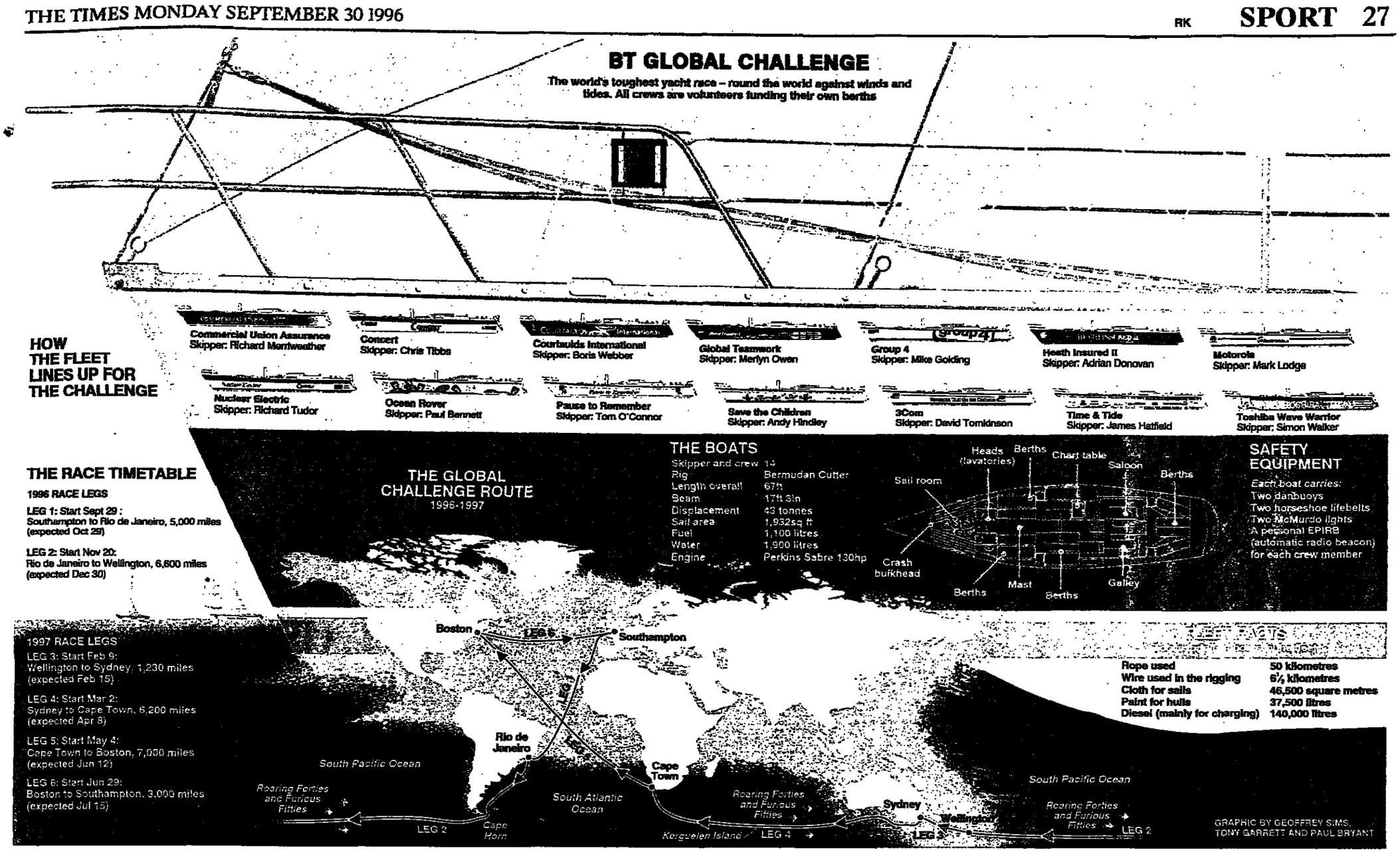
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SAILING: GROUP 4 SETS EARLY PACE IN ROUND-THE-WORLD CHALLENGE

New adventurers head off into stormy waters

BY EDWARD GORMAN, SAILING CORRESPONDENT

THE 14 BT Global Challenge crews got what they paid for yesterday as they crashed and pounded their way across the start line in a howling gale on the Solent. Going to windward, the seas sent spume and spray high over the bows of the 67ft David Thomas-designed cutters, outbound for Rio de Janeiro, a passage of just over 5,000 miles.

It was a dramatic and impressive sight as the fleet finally came under orders off Gilkicker Point, where the Princess Royal started them just after midday, in the midst of a spectator fleet of hundreds of boats of all shapes and sizes under grey and wet skies.

As the Challenge yachts ground their way westwards down the Solent, the west-going ebb tide gradually kicked in, making for a big swell against the south-westerly gale, gusting to over 50 knots. For the amateur crews, this was a moment to relish and an experience many have dreamt of for months.

On each boat, they were all — bar the bowmen and helmsman — sitting on the rail, getting a thorough soaking and lapping up the attention. As *Ocean Rover* — with the skipper, Paul Bennett, at the wheel, and *The Times*'s own sponsored crew, Jim Capstick, up on the bow — bounced and plunged her way past Osborne Bay, relatives and supporters on a motor launch burst into cheers and whistles. The crew responded with cheers of their own.

The start was one of the trickiest parts of the 29,000-mile marathon that takes the fleet around the world against the prevailing winds in a voyage that finishes back in Southampton in July next year, with five stopovers on the way. For the skippers, it was vital not to incur any damage in collision with any spectator craft.

Almost all chose two reefs in the mainsail and carried small yankee jibs and bright red storm staysails. The first over the line was *Global Teamwork*, skippered by Merfyn Owen, but he was too quick off the mark and crossed ten seconds early. As a penalty — a very harsh one — Owen was later required to heave-to for an hour off the Needles Fairway buoy.

BT Global Challenge

The race leader was thus the only South African skipper in the race, Boris Webber, on *Courtaulds*, who quickly got his yacht into the groove and seemed to benefit early on with a third reef in his main.


Bennett: at the helm

Next came Chris Tibbs, on *Concert*, with the other *Times*-sponsored crew, Lucy Duncan, among those on the rail, then David Tomkinson, on *3Com*, with Mike Golding, on *Group 4*, in fourth.

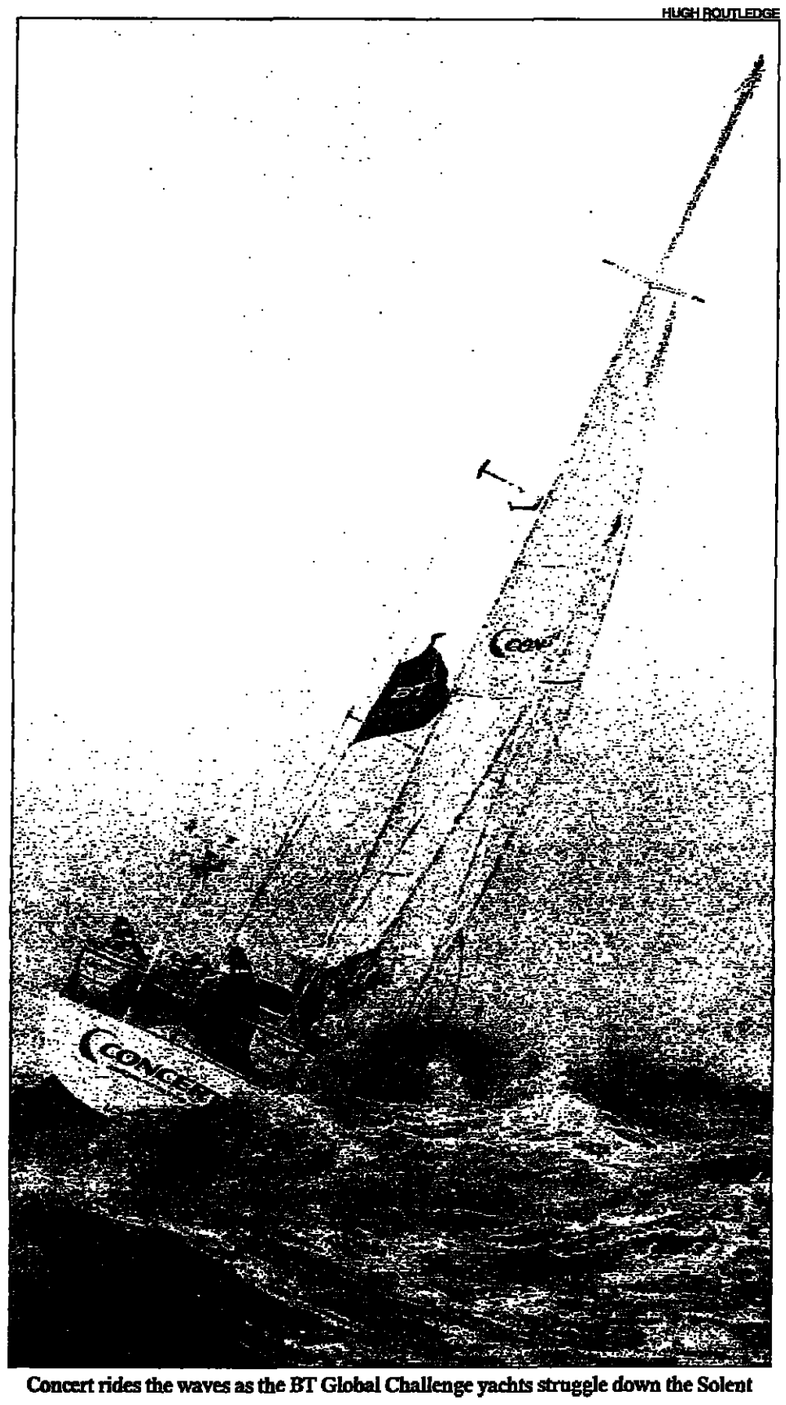
Three miles and 52 minutes later, at a special prize gate set between the Royal Yacht Squadron and the sail training ship, *Astrid*, moored about half a mile offshore, Webber tacked just inside Tibbs to take first blood in the race, winning the first of the day's two special prizes. Tomkinson was third with Golding, at this stage, fourth. Then came Andrew Hindley, on *Save the Children*, Mark Lodge, on *Motorola*, Richard Merriweather, on *Commercial Union*, and then the favourite, Richard Tudor, on *Nuclear Electric*.

By the second prize gate just over an hour later, between Hurst Castle and Fort Albert at the entrance to the Needles Channel (where there was a big swell building), *Group 4* had taken the lead, 11 seconds ahead of *Save the Children* with *Courtaulds* a further 44 seconds back in third. After passing the Needles Fairway buoy, the yachts then set off for the Portuguese coast, where they leave the Berlenga light to starboard and then head straight down to Rio.

Given the weather, Chay Blyth, the founder and director of the race, must have been heartened by the turnout from spectators, who lined the shore in front of Fort Gilkicker and packed the decks of everything from old paddle steamers to small yachts. It seems the public fascination with the event is set to continue.

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HUGH ROUTLEDGE


Concert rides the waves as the BT Global Challenge yachts struggle down the Solent

Waiting to hear news of birth halfway to Rio

BY JAMES CAPSTICK

I was on the bow of *Ocean Rover* with the rest of the crew last week as we motored into Ocean Village in Southampton with the 13 other yachts soon to race around the world in the BT Global Challenge. We were assembling for the last time before yesterday's start to make our final preparations for the race.

As we turned into our allotted berth, we were all amazed at the response on the dockside. The crowds cheered and we were illuminated by a massive searchlight as the announcer introduced us to the spectators.

This was the official opening of the week-long festival before the "world's toughest yacht race" got under way. As the remaining boats followed us into the marina, I was searching the crowd for my wife and children. Then it was time for the speeches, including one from Chay Blyth, the race director, whom my wife, Tracey, has crossed off our Christmas-card list for thinking up the "Challenge" in the first place.

When I considered I had done my bit on board, I jumped ship and went in search of the family. It was when I eventually found them that I think I started to realise for the first time the full effect of what I am undertaking.

Both my boys, Stephen and Christopher, were very upset when they realised that I was soon to set sail. They had obviously listened to the speeches of how dangerous it could be.

As for Tracey, who is eight months pregnant, I think it would be fair to say, she is "hormonally challenged" at the moment. She tends to have mood swings from calm and collected through to near hysteria. On this occasion, she was definitely veering towards the latter end of the scale.

Having been reunited with my family, I stood there with all three sobbing their hearts out. The start was still a week away but I have to say that I wished that I was about to set off, so as to avoid even worse scenes when I finally did go. I suppose that is partly the coward in me coming out and partly not wanting to put them through it again.

After about an hour standing in near silence, pretending to watch the fireworks display, Tracey drove the boys home and left me, as I was required with the rest of the crew to stay on the boat and prepare it for the race.

The logistics are amazing; one minute I was counting out 2,000 packets of assorted cup-a-soups, the next helping to take the toilet doors off because they can cause injury in the conditions we are expecting on the way down the Atlantic to Rio.

I reckon that, for the past couple of days, I have had the best job on the boat. While everyone else is in the thick of it, I have been 85 feet up the mast, sewing leather protective patches on to anything that might cause damage through chafe or wear.

It is probably the quietest and most private place on the boat. The only thing is, I suppose, that it gives you a lot of time to think and I have a lot to think about. Tracey has now been to the hospital and is booked in for her Caesarean section on the afternoon of October 15. I'll be awaiting news of that halfway to Brazil.

TOMORROW

What Tracey Capstick thinks of her husband's nine-month adventure

Getting a whiff of the tribulations ahead

BY LUCY DUNCAN

FROM saying to everyone I meet "oh, it's months until I go", suddenly the start of the BT Global Challenge is this weekend — and only a matter of hours away.

The pre-race week was hard work and far more hectic than I thought it would be. There were the inevitable pre-race parties but most of the time was spent getting the boat ready, loading up supplies and sorting out endless inventories of equipment. And that was before any of us sorted out our own personal crew kit.

Deciding what to take was less of a problem than I had imagined. As a crew, we agreed a very specific list of equipment including just one tape and one book each. I compiled my tape during my last week at home indulging my fantasies that I had been invited onto *Desert Island Discs* (all this media contact has gone to my head).

It is an extremely catholic collection and, no doubt I'll never want to hear any of my favourite pieces of music again, once we get back to Southampton next July.

As well as humping piles of gear onto the boat, my last two days were filled with dismantling and reassembling all the boat's deck winches. In the company of Phil, a fellow crew member, (an engineer in real life), we managed to put them all back together again and, much to our relief, not had any screws, nuts or cogs left over at the end.

I now carry around with me wherever I go the unmistakable smell of Gunk (grease-removing fluid used for cleaning the winches) and my fellow crew claim to be able to smell me before they can see me. I don't think Gunk will catch on as a perfume.

Three other crew members spent more than half the week packing five weeks' worth of food into carrier bags. This included individually bagging and precisely weighing 100-gram bags of peanut portions for each crew member as one of a variety of daily 'treats'.

The general feeling from the crew was that everyone just wanted to get going. We had all had our pre-race pep talk from Chay Blyth, including a video of the last race. The emphasis of the video seemed to concentrate on how many people had returned home to unemployment last time — which seemed a strange choice. The rest of the session was fairly upbeat and the crew's enthusiasm remains undimmed.

As Sarah, our boat's medic, put it, "it's rather like being a medical student, the training is so long that even though you know the job can be grotty at times, you can't wait to get on with it."

On the personal side, I seem to be going away having left most of my affairs in total chaos. I have just managed to rent my house and my long-suffering elder sister is tying up all the administrative loose ends. There are far more rules and regulations involved in renting out a house than I had ever dreamt.

One of the great attractions of the next ten months is getting away from such hassles. In fact, my main administrative worry will be what to write in *The Times* for my next article.

Farewell tinged with anxiety

BY EDWARD GORMAN

THE BT Global Challenge is probably harder on relatives and friends of the intrepid sailors taking part than it is on the participants themselves. Crashing around in the Southern Ocean is one thing; sitting at home wondering if everything is all right thousands of miles away in unimaginable weather, is quite another.

Kenneth and Jill Duncan, whose daughter, Lucy, will be reporting for *The Times* from on board *Concert*, are among thousands of people who have said goodbye to loved ones this weekend.

Kenneth Duncan, who, like his wife, is 72 and like her, too, was a doctor, makes no secret of his admiration for Lucy, who has taken leave from her job as a midwife to compete in the race. "My wife might have done it, but never me because I'm a physical coward," he said.

He added that, like any parent — especially one unfamiliar with sailing and the sea — he was worried about Lucy's safety, but this was tempered by his confidence both in Lucy and in the thorough way the race is organised.

"It's a very daunting thing she is taking on, but I have enormous confidence in her," he said. "She's a team player and is used to being under stress and is used to having to help and to do whatever has to be done," he said.

Duncan and his wife, who live at Steeple Aston, in Oxfordshire, are hoping to travel out to Cape Town to watch Lucy sail in for what will be the penultimate stopover. By that time they hope the worst of the race will be over. In the meantime, they will be following her progress through her reports for *The Times*. "We'll be reading her stories — it's going to be rather fun," he said.

FOOTBALL: LABOURED VICTORY OVER TEAM REDUCED TO NINE MEN REVEALS LACK OF IMAGINATION AND TACTICAL ACUMEN AT HIGHBURY

Arsenal slow to use dismissals as credit cards

Arsenal 2
Sunderland 0

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

"THE players," Pat Rice, the Arsenal caretaker manager, said, "have been brilliant, absolutely brilliant, and hopefully they'll make Mr Wenger's life easier, too. He can sleep easily."

Had Arsenal's new, French manager, due to arrive this evening, been at Highbury to see Arsenal grind out their laborious win against a Sunderland team reduced for most of the match to nine men, he is more likely to have had nightmares, to have muttered in his sleep, "*J'y suis, j'y reste.*"

By virtue, if that be the word, of this shabby success, Arsenal moved into second place. It reminded me of an old schoolmaster, an Alsatian like Wenger, who wrote on the report of a dull pupil who had attained second place: "In the country of the blind, the one-eyed man is king. This accounts for his position as viceroy."

Midway through the first half, Sunderland, who had been playing much the crisper football, had their left back, Scott, sent off for the second of two wild tackles on Dixon. Peter Reid, his manager, inexplicably thought the tackle a "great" one and confronted the referee, Paul Danson, so aggressively that he himself was sent down the tunnel.

Reid, who is likely to face a misconduct charge from the Football Association, admitted: "It was very unprofessional and I do apologise for it, but it's an emotional game, and sometimes you do get carried away."

Worse was to follow when Sunderland's lone striker, Paul Stewart, was expelled, five minutes from half-time, for the second of two handling offences. Rice felt the referee could have contented himself with a warning word, and it is true that mere handball is hardly as heinous as a foul tackle. But rules are rules; there are, on the field, no distinctions between yellow cards and, the climate being what it is, it is hard to see what else Danson could do.

After which, Arsenal's sadly unintelligent team made wretchedly heavy weather of their victory. Rice himself must take some of the blame. It took him until ludicrously late to appreciate that the best way to negotiate a packed defence is to go round the back, using the wings.

"Let me tell you something," he said, "you could put eight monkeys there and it would be hard to break them down." Resisting the temptation to ask which were the monkeys, it is true that Rice eventually pushed Paul Merson out to the left wing and, later still, brought Ray Parlour onto the right.

Parlour, with his second touch, blasted a tremendous shot past Coton for Arsenal's second goal. The pass came from another substitute, the young centre forward, Shaw. So did the left-wing cross from which John Hartson, after 72 minutes, headed Arsenal into a belated lead.

Until Arsenal scored their first goal, and Reid daringly brought on a couple of strikers to give Arsenal a couple of frights in an attempt to "nick" a point, Sunderland packed their own half and booted either into touch or no man's land. Who could blame them? It was incumbent on Arsenal to use their brains and their numerical advantage. But the longer the siege went on, the more unimaginative they looked. Ian Wright did have a shot kicked off the line by Melville in the first half, but was largely subdued.

Even David Dein, the hyperactive Arsenal vice-chairman, seems muted now, recalling the apocryphal words President Eisenhower addressed to the Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles: "Don't just say something. Stand there!"

But what will Wenger say?

ARSENAL (3-5-2): D Seaman — S Bould, A Adams, M Keown — L Dixon, P Vieira (sub: R Parlour, 67min), P Merson, D Platt, N Winterburn (sub: P Shaw, 71) — J Hartson, I Wright.

SUNDERLAND (4-5-1): A Coton — G Hall, A Melville, L Howey, M Scott — P Bracewell (sub: M Bridges, 75), K Ball, S Agnew, A Rae (sub: D Kubicki, 27), M Gray (sub: C Russell, 82) — P Stewart.

Referee: P Danson.



Reid makes his point and gets his marching orders



Scott is dismissed by Danson. Stewart was to fall foul of the referee soon afterwards

Slack finishing gives Gullit slap in the face

Chelsea 1
Nottingham Forest 1

BY KEITH PIKE

AS A player, Ruud Gullit could always work his frustrations out on the pitch. Being a coach, he says, presents different problems. On Saturday Gullit stood hands on hips, head shaking sadly, bemoaning the injustice of it all. It is deadlocks like this that make dreadlocks like his turn prematurely grey.

The result was a farce, the contest as absorbing as it is likely to be in the FA Carling Premiership when only one side is making any attempt to win. That side was not Forest, and Gullit now has a fortnight in which he says his feelings will only fester. Time will tell if a great player can buck the trend and become the great manager many expect him to, and this is a very early test.

"A slap in the face" was how Gullit described the injury-time goal with which Jason Lee deprived his side of the victory that would have made a bad week for Chelsea more tolerable. It was surely more painful than that. Better sides than Gullit's have been turned over at Anfield, and for all the embarrassment of their home defeat against Blackpool in midweek, Chelsea are still in the Coca-Cola Cup. But how to explain emerging from a ridiculously one-sided exhibition match with a draw?

Backing his players was a reasonable start, and one that did not go unappreciated in the home dressing-room at Stamford Bridge. "I could not have asked for more," Gullit said. "I do not blame them. They did everything but win the game."

True enough. Of the 28 attempts on goal, Chelsea had 24, and had Vialli's early volley not hit the bar, they might have swamped Forest. The Italy striker eventually scored when Wise touched back Minto's pass six minutes into the second half, and for some time thereafter only Crossley's reflexes stood between the rampant Blues and the retreating Reds. But, with the clock showing 92 minutes played, Woan thumped the ball upfield and Lee, with an assured first touch, hit a fine half-volley over Hitchcock and in off the far post.

Forest had been played off the park, but are superior technique and overwhelming possession enough? Frank Clark, their manager, thinks not. "At 1-0 down, anything can happen," he said. "The goalkeeper kept us in it, and we got a break — the first we have had all season."

Forest are, he admits, reduced to "scratching and battling" for points. They showed all the attacking instincts of a wet paper bag, and yet Clark said he "had a go at half-time because we were going forward too fast." It was an extraordinary confession, and one that perhaps reveals the depths of his concern.

Since beating Coventry City on the opening day of the season, Forest have taken four points out of 21 — a repeat of the start to their 1992-93 season under Brian Clough when, with most pundits saying Forest were too good to go down, they did precisely that. Clark's Forest, on this showing, are simply too bad to stay up.

Chelsea will surely prosper under Gullit. Their finishing — Petrescu's lob over from six yards was the most obvious howler — was woeful, but their movement and ambition a delight. Clark believes that they will not score enough goals to challenge for the title, and he is probably right.

CHELSEA (3-5-2): K Hitchcock — M Duberry, F Leboeuf, S Clarke — D Petrescu, C Burley, R Di Matteo, D Wise, S Minto — M Hughes, G Vialli

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (3-5-2): M Crossley — C Cooper, N Jerkan, S Pearce — D Lyttle (sub: P McGregor, 87min), D Phillips, C Bart-Williams (sub: C Allen, 76), I Woan, A I Haaland — B Roy (sub: J Lee, 46), D Saunders.

Referee: G Poll.

Pass masters Everton put Wednesday in their place

Everton 2
Sheffield Wednesday 0

BY MARK HODKINSON

IF A towel had been thrown from the Sheffield Wednesday bench, or had David Pleat gambolled on to the pitch waving a white handkerchief, no one would have been surprised.

Everton, quite simply, ravaged Wednesday and it was barely an understatement when Joe Royle, the Everton manager, said: "It could have been ten."

Without their beacon, Duncan Ferguson, Everton were bullied into the passing game and it suited them splendidly. The ball was married to the turf and the fluency of their play was almost joyous at times.

Michael Branch wriggled past Walker on six minutes but fell to the ground as the defender closed in. A penalty was awarded; a decision Royle later conceded was "shady". Unsworth rammed the kick against the bar, but the disappointment did not trouble Everton.

Wednesday, in their fluorescent orange kit, were as stationary as traffic cones and, without the injured Collins and Pembridge, their midfield had neither enterprise or intent.

Joe Parkinson fed Kanchelskis and the winger obliged with his trademark run and finish. Shoulders rolling, right instep flashing like a sabre, he swashbuckled through Wednesday's defence before placing it beyond Pressman. Kanchelskis has little peripheral vision, and his next move is rarely a surprise, but at full pace he is as efusive as a ghost.

The goal signalled a cascade of chances for Everton. Kanchelskis, Speed and Branch compelling Pressman to make a series of saves. Andy Booth might have equalised but was pulled back by Unsworth as he approached Southall. Unsworth was rightly booked and a more fastidious referee than Paul Alcock might have sent him off.

The anticipated banquet of goals did not arrive, but the second and final one was of a rare value. Michael Branch outwitted Stefanovic, tore to the by-line and crossed for Stuart to prod home with aplomb.



Kanchelskis: inspired

It was a fitting cameo of Branch's overall performance. On only his second full appearance, and at just 17, he showed heartwarming potential. He is impudent, linear, and his style of play uncannily similar to a certain Robbie Fowler from across the other side of Stanley Park.

Pleat, the Wednesday manager, was typically frank afterwards. "We got lucky today, end of story," he said. "My goalkeeper gave a class display and can hold his head up but, from full back upwards, Everton were better in all aspects. They had two sharp players up front. I think Branch was excellent. In time he is going to be a very, very good player."

Royle revealed that Branch will be chaperoned into his professional career. "We will look after him and make sure he doesn't get burn-out. He is very tired back there in the dressing-oom but he can be pleased with himself. We have known about Michael Branch for some time and we intend to pitch him in and out of the first team at the right time," Royle said.

On an afternoon when Everton's football had been commendably slick, Royle could not resist a pinch of sarcasm. "Who was it who said we were one-dimensional?" he asked. The press room fell silent.

EVERTON (4-3-3): N Southall — E Barrett, C Short, D Unsworth, A Hinchcliffe — J Parkinson, J Ebbrell, G Speed — A Kanchelskis, M Branch, G Stuart.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — P Atherton, D Walker, D Stefanovic, I Nolan — G Whittingham (sub: M Williams, 70min), O Trustfull, S Nicol (sub: G Hyde, 46), R Blinker — D Hirst (sub: R Humphreys, 46), A Booth.

Referee: P Alcock.

Kelly seeks Brighton solution

BRIGHTON and Hove Albion appear before the Football Association today in a bid to solve the bitter takeover dispute which is threatening to destroy the Goldstone Ground club.

Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, will chair a meeting between Bill Archer, the Brighton chairman, and Dick Knight, a local businessman, who has formed a consortium to take over the troubled third division club.

The meeting at a hotel in Lancaster Gate, near FA headquarters, will also be attended by council leaders from Brighton and Hove, and the club's chief executive, David Bellotti.

Kelly called the meeting amid fears that Brighton will fold when they are forced to leave the Goldstone in May next year after selling the ground to developers.

The club has failed to find a site on which to build a replacement stadium and the Football League has lodged official objections to their plans to groundshare with Portsmouth at Fratton Park.

George Weah scored two goals and Roberto Baggio, a second-half substitute, added a third as AC Milan beat Perugia 3-0 in Italy's Serie A yesterday.

Bruce Grobbelaar, the former Liverpool and Southampton goalkeeper, made a winning start to his new career as coach of Zimbabwe yesterday when his team beat Tanzania 1-0 in an international match in Harare.

Wimbledon take cultured path to reach dizzy heights

Derby County 0
Wimbledon 2

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

WELCOME to reality. Derby County, having taken points from Leeds, Tottenham and Manchester United, met their match in a side which looked the genuine article. Yes, Wimbledon.

Anyone who doubted them before this fifth successive victory in the FA Carling Premiership had only to glance at Saturday night's table, which showed Wimbledon in third place, or at this week's international squads, which include eight Wimbledon players.

Not, of course, that Joe Kinnear, their manager, was getting carried away, preferring to recite his usual litany: "We are a closely-knit club, we all stick together and work extremely hard. We'll keep our feet on the ground."

Wimbledon also keep the ball on the ground, despite accusations that they still favour route one. "It does Joe's head in," Vinnie Jones, his captain, said, "and then you watch what they [Derby] were trying to do today ..." Kinnear referred only obliquely to Derby's tactics: "We had to withstand a certain amount of pressure, but most of it was long-ball, and we dealt with it," he said.

The pick of Wimbledon's defenders under the aerial bombardment was Chris Perry, known as "Rash" — apparently he has a tendency to get all over his opponents — although at the Baseball Ground he usually got above and in front of them as well. "He is having an exceptional season," Kinnear said. "There aren't many better centre halves in the country."

Kinnear, of course, likes to talk up his players to increase their resale value, but in Perry's case the praise was completely justified. Although not the tallest of defenders, his spring-heeled leaps allowed him to reach most high balls, while his interceptions and tackles helped to ensure that Sullivan in goal had little to do.

While Derby tested the heading ability of Perry, McAllister and company, Jones and Robbie Earle controlled midfield with short, accurate passes and, for the most part, precise tackles. The crowd, needless to say, took exception to every challenge — after all, Wimbledon are a team of kickers, aren't they? — and especially to Jones, whose early contributions were met with jeers.

Jones, playing the elder statesman, refused to rise to the bait. "Every single ground I go to, except Leeds, you've got supporters on your back," Jones said. "Robbie and I had two top midfielders up against us and they were both substituted."

The midfield sorted out, Wimbledon won the match with two second-half goals, the ball barely leaving the ground in either case. Early on, Ardley turned past Darryl Powell, evaded Igor Stimac's tackle and crossed low for Earle to apply the finish. Twenty minutes later, Leonhardsen ignored Ekoku's central run in favour of one on the right from Marcus Gayle, who took the ball inside Stimac before turning to hit a low left-foot shot past Hoult.

"Tremendous," was Jones's verdict. "Neal Ardley's bit of skill was unbelievable." He added, jokingly: "I'm sure we've got Liverpool and Manchester United really worried now."

Derby, who missed their best chance when Gabbiadini put a free header over the bar from six yards, might not see the funny side.

DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2): R Hoult — G Rowett (sub: L Carsley, 17min), I Stimac, M Carbon — J Laursen, C Dailly, A Asanovic (sub: M Gabbiadini, 78), D Powell (sub: P Simpson, 72), C Powell — D Sturridge, A Ward.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, C Perry, B McAllister, A Kimble — N Ardley, R Earle, V Jones, O Leonhardsen (sub: D Blackwell, 88) — E Ekoku (sub: M Harford, 89), M Gayle

Referee: A Wilkie



Ardley: made first goal



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FOOTBALL: HALLMARK GOAL FRUSTRATES WEST HAM AND RESTORES THREE-POINT LEAD AT TOP

Thomas keeps Liverpool out in front

West Ham United 1
Liverpool 2

By Rob Hughes
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT


MARC ASPLAND

James, the Liverpool goalkeeper, survives a determined West Ham assault on goal during the Premiership leaders' victory at Upton Park

WITH a goal that is quintessentially Liverpool — team play, passing and moving, patience and precision — the Reds of Merseyside stay three points clear at the top of the FA Carling Premiership. Their hallmark goal, finished off by Michael Thomas, proved not only that Liverpool can play the continental game and draw opponents to them until they strike, but was a fitting reward for a team that, through injury, had lost its striking partnership and yet now has the resilience that was missing last season to go on and "grind out" results.

Be in no doubt: that second quality, tenacity, was required at Upton Park. For West Ham United, themselves in an early-season injury epidemic, came back from an early goal, equalised and, for nearly half an hour, took the tempo of the game from a team that would be champions, and ultimately only surrendered to that exquisite team goal.

"I would agree, our second goal was fantastic," Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, said. "It was the type of thing we are looking for."

The first goal came in the second minute when, after Thomas, from the centre circle, had hit a diagonal through ball, West Ham were caught flat and square. Stan Collymore, much criticised of late, shook off Marc Rieper as if he were flotsam. Indeed, it was Collymore at his best, muscular and hungry. He pushed the ball to Rieper's left, he powered through a half-hearted tackle on Rieper's right, and, from 15 yards, he shot low and true inside the far post.

Economy from Liverpool, naivety from the Hammers. Ludek Miklosko was like Bruce Willis at that moment — *The Last Man Standing*. But he, and his opposite number, David James, were to stretch athletically, right and left, as the game built up.

These days, of course, it is a game of imported talent. By their attitude to foreigners may we know them: Liverpool down-played the introduction of Patrik Berger, and look at the dividends. Harry Redknapp promises that Hugo Profirio, whom he has procured on loan from Sporting Lisbon, is a world-class talent. Well, Berger was not quite so special as McManaman this day and Profirio, just 23, produced flickers of hypnotic footwork without result.

After Collymore had to be led from the field with a knee injury, his goal by then a memory, Liverpool sought to use Berger as the foremost player. "Patrik told us he could play up front," Evans said. "He obviously tells lies occasionally."

In the second half it was McManaman, more willing if no more accustomed, who took on the centre-forward role. And only towards the end did Evans relieve McManaman by bringing on Lee Jones.

The absence of Mark Wright, with a depressed cheekbone fracture, took away Liverpool's authority in the air. Dominic Matteo, on the fringe of England honours and showing much elegance on the ground, cannot command the high ball. And so, with West Ham sending Slaven Bilic and Rieper up for every corner, with Hughes and Bowen galvanising the home team on the left, Liverpool were made to look vulnerable at head-height. In the fifteenth minute, for example, Bilic had the freedom of the six-yard box to equalise with a towering header from Hughes's corner.

Then, for nearly half an hour, West Ham closed Liverpool down with sharpness in midfield and, when Thomas gave the ball away, Cottee asked the first splendid save from James. Similarly, just as the second half began, Bishop demanded an even finer deflection from the goalkeeper.

So it looked as though Liverpool might struggle to save the game. But, in the 53rd minute, came their move *par excellence*. James rolled the ball to his defenders and then, in possibly 14 or 15 passes, too sweet and too numerable to count, Barnes and Matteo, McManaman and Redknapp ensured that no one in claret and blue could get a touch.

Finally, with the thrust of a rapier, McManaman delivered the final pass and Thomas, who had been the target for some despicable racial bigotry from the crowd, exacted revenge with an almost effortless, but again accurate, final stroke of the ball into the net.

Redknapp Sr spoke of his side betraying themselves, conceding two sloppy goals. That is his version. To the neutral observer, the second one bordered on greatness and, if finally his defenders came out hunting the ball, that was because, in the last resort, they were being toyed with in that move by men superior both in talent and tactical appreciation.

WEST HAM UNITED (3-5-2): L Miklosko — M Rieper, S Bilic, J Dicks — T Breacker, M Hughes, I Bishop, J Moncur, M Bowen (sub: H Profirio, 59min) — I Dowie, A Cottee (sub: I Dumitrescu, 76)

LIVERPOOL (3-4-2-1): D James — J Scales (sub: N Ruddock, 68), D Matteo, P Babb — J McAteer, M Thomas, J Barnes, S I Bjornebye — S McManaman, P Berger (sub: L Jones, 82) — S Collymore (sub: J Redknapp, 20).
Referee: K Burge.

Putting the case for defence on player's terms

STEVE McMANAMAN



on a problem of image for footballers

Since I began writing this column for *The Times*, people have asked me why I do it. It's not for the money, that's for sure. Joking aside, there are a couple of very good reasons for me to put pen to paper.

Footballers do not have a particularly good image. If you read the tabloid newspapers, in particular, then you might think we are all a bunch of drunken yobs with a very small IQ and that we are only interested in criticising everyone else inside the game.

It is certainly true that we have a high profile these days — some players are treated like pop stars — yet it is rare that any footballer has the opportunity to get across what he feels about the game, or anything else for that matter.

Newspaper interviews tend to be on the writer's terms. For the player, it is a matter of responding to questions, rather than setting them, and I do not think I'm exaggerating when I say that the tabloids would rather concentrate on a negative rather than a positive. Apparently, it sells newspapers. Speak openly, and your comments can be taken out of context and perhaps used against another member of your profession. Be guarded, and you appear dull, even unintelligent.

Players are practised in the art of saying very little so as not to expose themselves to the possibility of being "twirled", as I believe it is called in the media. Gary Lineker and David Platt have mastered that art and Alan Shearer, the new England captain, is following suit. They all present themselves very well, which is something other professionals will have to learn.

Even in the bigger interviews, it is still a case of responding to an interviewer and hoping that your sentiments are expressed properly. I don't see myself as an ambassador for the players, a spokesman or even as an intelligent footballer. I am just an ordinary bloke who gets asked his opinion a lot and I appreciate the chance to express that opinion without it being distorted.

If the truth be told, I am glad of the chance to show people that I am not the lager lout that I am sure many see me as. I'm no saint. I enjoy a night out with my mates and my girlfriend and, like many blokes in a group environment, I enjoy winding my team-mates up. Yet readers could be forgiven if their perception of me — and many of my colleagues — was very different.

I have not had a really bad time in the press, but there were a couple of incidents with the England party when we went to Hong Kong before the European championship that didn't put me in a good light. Robbie Fowler and I were accused of being involved in that incident on the plane where a video screen was supposedly damaged. I cannot say too much about it, because there are legal proceedings, but, even though neither of us was involved, I'm sure people thought we were after reading that story. That was very distressing and embarrassing.

There were also those pictures from a Hong Kong bar, which I notice were circulated around the papers again this weekend after Gazza talked about drinking. Now, I am the first to admit they did not look very good, but a picture can never tell the full story — and I bet Gazza's comments were not taken in context.

It's true that we had been drinking, but that was only because we were allowed a relaxed night off. The manager said we should all have a social evening together and we did. There were 15 or 16 of us, including Bryan Robson, who was on the coaching staff.

None of us behaved badly — there were no complaints from the people in the bar — and not one of us missed the curfew the England manager had set. Yet we were slaughtered, even though it was still 15 or 16 days away from Euro 96 and, for many of us it was a first night out at the end of a very long, hard season.

I was singled out because I was in all of the pictures, but I was only in the pictures because I had been standing next to Gazza — and the photographers always go for him. As I say, we were drinking, but under the circumstances it was all right, as I think we proved by the way we performed in the championship.

It's this image thing. Lineker and Platt have worked wonders to give themselves a decent image and I think I can be excused for wanting to improve mine.

Streetwise Southampton strike blow for have-nots


Le Tissier: two goals but still plenty of frustration

Russell Kempson sees Middlesbrough cut down to size by one of the Premiership's poor relations

MIDDLESBROUGH, with only two defeats in seven League outings, fielded Branco, Emerson, Juninho, Barmby and Ravanelli. Southampton, without a win in seven, fielded Moss, Lundekvam, Charlton, Dryden and Oakley. The ludicrously paid against the moderately paid; the haves versus the have-nots; the princes v the paupers. At The Dell on Saturday, Southampton won 4-0.

Thus, the FA Carling Premiership produced one of its glorious upsets. An 80-1 scoreline, according to the pre-match book, that defied the odds; when the mighty fall with such a crunch that, for a few hours at least, anything appears possible. It is days like this that Southampton, and those of similar ilk, exist for. Deny them not their moment.

A first League victory, too, for their manager, Graeme Souness, since he had his fill of life in Turkey and settled, instead, for Hampshire. Time has clearly mellowed the raging bull and, though he still talked a warrior's game, of wanting fire and brimstone from his players, the Souness demeanour was calm, composed and accommodating.

"We've been a bit guilty of being too nice," he said. "We've needed to be a bit more aggressive, more streetwise." Southampton scrapped like an LA gang, yet without the final brutality; from Maddison's bone-jarring yet fair challenge on Juninho in the opening seconds — "That set the tempo for us," Souness said — to the aggravating yet excellent seek-and-destroy tactics of Watson.

And then there was Le Tissier, flitting about like a butterfly and, occasionally, stinging like a bee. Two goals — one direct from a corner, one from a surely offside position — tended to glamorise an otherwise intermittent display. Still, the plaudits cascaded on him.

"He's always likely to make things happen," Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, said, before taking his side off to Thailand for a lucrative two-match tour. "He can win matches on his own." Rather nearer the mark, Robson conceded that Middlesbrough were excruciatingly awful, especially in defence.

"Matthew is still not getting enough of the ball," Souness said. "He has got to be sick of the sight of it. When he says 'They don't pass to me enough,' then perhaps he should go and get it more." Doubts persist about whether Le Tissier will fulfil his potential with Southampton or England, and Souness admitted: "If he finished tomorrow, he would have to say he's never achieved what he should have."

English football's greatest enigma will continue to confuse the wisest sages as Souness attempts to build a competitive framework around him. Eyal Berkovic, the Israel midfield player, will join soon, work permit permitting. "Technically, he's brilliant," Souness said. "We'll just have to see if he can cope with the Premiership." Such is life in the poor house.

Oakley nudged Southampton ahead and Le Tissier's fluky corner made it 2-0. Maddison headed Ravanelli's fierce shot off the goalline, despite the apparent risk of decapitation, and Le Tissier added his second. In the 83rd minute, Watson received due reward for his industry by claiming the fourth.

Suddenly, Middlesbrough awoke. Ravanelli, the ten-goal Italian, missed a penalty, after Lundekvam had bundled over Moore. Juninho drove wide from an acute angle and Barmby struck the joint of crossbar and post and saw the ball rebound into Moss's grateful arms. Paupers 4 Princes 0. An invigorating day.

SOUTHAMPTON (3-4-1-2): N Moss — N Maddison, C Lundekvam, R Dryden — M Oakley, R Slater (sub: N Heaney, 18min; sub: R Wallconson, 73), J Magilton, S Charlton — M Le Tissier — N Shipperley, G Watson

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-4-3): A Miller — D Whyte, S Vickers (sub: N Cox, 80), P Whelan (sub: A Moore, 64) — C Fleming, P Stamp, Emerson, Branco — N Barmby, Juninho, F Ravanelli
Referee: R Dilkes

Walsh has word of warning for Graham's depleted Leeds

Leicester City 1
Leeds United 0

By Richard Hobson

CRUEL choruses of "you are going down" to the tune of the summer anthem, *Three Lions*, echoed around Filbert Street on Saturday. No surprise there, except for one rather important detail. Leicester fans were singing, not listening.

Leicester have now taken 11 points from eight games and, having been widely tipped for relegation back to the Nationwide League, they are entitled to gloat. Throw in a double over Scarborough in the Coca-Cola Cup, and Leicester have won their last four games. Martin O'Neill, the manager, said he was "ecstatic". But whither George Graham?

His Leeds United side sit precariously next to the bottom three and, by the time the FA Carling Premiership resumes in 12 days' time, his footprints will be imprinted clearly along the walk from the manager's office to the treatment room at Elland Road. Rush, Hateley, Deane, Yeboah, Dorigo, Pemberton and Bowyer were all absent on Saturday, when Graham's five midfield players had an average age of 20 and Lee Sharpe was forced to play at centre forward.

Better times ought to lie ahead, but Steve Walsh is not so sure. Two years ago, injury restricted the Leicester captain to five appearances as they finished 19 points away from safety. While they made a worse start than Leeds have this season, Walsh believes there is a lesson that needs heeding.

"We were surprised at Leeds. They looked a poor team," he said. "No matter what the reasons, you just cannot get away with starting a season badly. Even with the quality of the players who will come back, and the manager, they will find it very hard. If they have a few more games without any points, they are going to be on the verge of big trouble."

Leicester themselves sit comfortably in mid-table. Neil Lennon created the decisive goal after 59 minutes after an error by Wetherall. He went around Ford and shot left-footed across Martyn. The goalkeeper could only parry the ball and Heskey slid it in. Graham did not appear too worried afterwards. "I do not think we are lacking in confidence, but I would rather blood the youngsters one or two at a time. Some of them are still a year away from the first team, ideally," he said. "At least with so many of them in the side, we are not getting hammered."

There is another way of putting it. You never win anything with kids, and the success of Manchester United last season failed to disprove the theory. How much easier for the Nevilles, Butt and Beckham to be integrated into a side including towering figures like Schmeichel, Pallister, Keane and Cantona.

More debatable was Graham's assertion that he cannot find players to strengthen his team. "All the good players are at good clubs already," he said. "It is not a question of money, they are just not available."

LEICESTER CITY (3-5-2): K Keller — S Prior, J Watts, S Walsh — S Grayson, M Izzet, N Lennon, S Taylor, M Whitlow — I Marshall (sub: G Parker, 76min), E Heskey.

LEEDS UNITED (3-5-2): N Martyn — D Wetherall, C Palmer, R Jobson — G Kelly, M Ford, A Couzens (sub: L Radebe, 83), M Jackson, I Hare — R Wallace, L Sharpe
Referee: S Dunn.

Atkinson's well-worn script seriously short of punchlines

Coventry City 0
Blackburn Rovers 0

By David Maddock

RON ATKINSON, the Coventry City manager, has the appearance of an ageing cabaret comedian, still touring the working men's clubs, and he has the patter to match. "I like this job," he said, "and I think I like winning, although I'm not sure I can remember."

You almost expected him to come out with that old chestnut, "we were lucky to get nil", because if ever it was appropriate, it was in this game against Blackburn Rovers. He still has the slick style, but one wonders if his best days are behind him.

Atkinson was talking about his job because there is a growing feeling that the old wise-cracker has had his time in the sun; that it might be time for him to hang up the cream suit. The plan to allow Gordon Strachan to take over at the end of the season could be brought forward.

For all the money Atkinson has spent, Coventry's performance suggested only that they can brace themselves for a long winter of struggle. The manager believes it is his forward line which is failing to deliver. "I didn't think goals would be a problem with the players we have," he said. Yet, concerns run deeper than that. There is the Atkinson style about his side, but the substance is lacking. Coventry rarely looked like winning this dreadful match.

The closest they came was eight minutes from time when Liam Daish rose unchallenged to head a McAllister corner goalwards. Gary Croft was alert, however, to steer the ball away from under the bar, and preserve the point Blackburn had set out to secure.

They too have real problems. Ray Harford, the manager, is good at finding plus points in his side's performance, and it is certainly true that Rovers look like they are a side in the making, if only they could start scoring goals. The fact remains that they are still bottom, and we are nearly a quarter of the way through the season.

They could have stolen the match when Lars Bohinen was offered a presentable chance ten yards from goal two minutes into injury time. In keeping with the mood of the game, however, he screwed his shot wide when it appeared easier to score. Worse news followed, when Harford revealed that Chris Coleman could miss the rest of the season with a ruptured Achilles tendon.

Sutton did hit the outside of a post for Rovers during the early exchanges, and Flowers, their goalkeeper, was called upon to save smartly from first Salako and then Telfer. That was it, though, and if the supporters were asked to mark the game for entertainment value, then their boos and cat-calls throughout the second half suggested both sides would be lucky to get nil. Boom, boom.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — B Borrows, D Burrows, L Daish, M Hall — P Telfer, G McAllister, K Richardson, J Salako — D Dublin, N Whelan

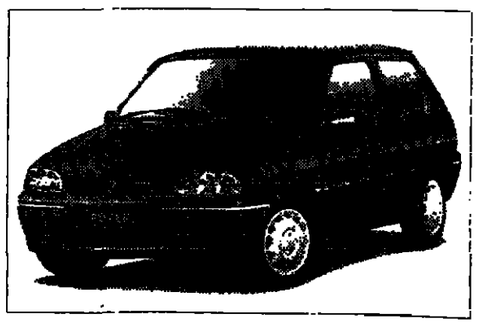
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — N Marker, C Handry, C Coleman (sub: S Ripley, 78min), G Croft — G Donis, T Sherwood, L Bohinen, J Wilcox (sub: W McKinlay, 84) — K Gallacher (sub: G Fenton, 41), C Sutton.
Referee: J Winter.

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Wasteful Bolton 31

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FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

ARSENAL (0) 2 **SUNDERLAND** (0) 0
Hartson 73
Parlour 88
38 016

Sent off: P Stewart (Sunderland) 39
M Scott (Sunderland) 21

Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winterburn (sub: P Shaw, 71min), P Vieira (sub: R Parlour, 87min), S Bould, A Adams, D Platt, I Wright, P Merson, M Keown, J Hartson.
Sunderland: A Colon, M Scott, P Bracewell (sub: M Bridges, 75min), K Ball, A Melville, M Gray (sub: C Russell, 81min), P Stewart, S Agnew, G Hall, L Howey, A Rae (sub: D Kubicki, 26min).
Booked: Bracewell
Referee: P Danson.

CHELSEA (0) 1 **NOTTM F** (0) 1
Vialli 51
Lee 90
27,573

Chelsea: K Hitchcock, D Petrescu, F Leboeuf, S Clarke, G Vialli, M Hughes, D Wise, M Duberry, C Burley, R Di Matteo, S Minto
Booked: Duberry, Leboeuf, Hughes, Minto.
Nottingham Forest: S Crossley, D Lyttle (sub: P McGregor, 88min), S Pearce, C Cooper, C Bart-Williams (sub: C Allen, 75min), D Phillips, D Saunders, I Wson, N Jerkan, A-I Haaland, Roy (sub: J Lee, 45min)
Booked: Haaland
Referee: G Poll

COVENTRY (0) 0 **BLACKBURN** (0) 0
17,032

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, M Hall, D Burrows, L Dutch, K Richardson, P Telfer, G McAllister, N Whelan, D Dublin, J Salako
Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, C Coleman (sub: S Ripley, 78min), C Hendry, N Marker, G Croft, T Sherwood, K Gallacher (sub: G Fenton, 41min), L Bohanen, C Sutton, G Dons, J Wilcox (sub: W McKinlay 84min)
Referee: J Winter.

DERBY (0) 0 **WIMBLEDON** (0) 2
17,022
Earle 49
Gayle 70

Derby County: R Hoult, G Rowett (sub: L Carsley, 18min), C Powell, M Carbon, J Laursen, I Stimac, A Asanovic (sub: M Gabbiadini, 78min), D Powell (sub: P Simpson, 72min), C Dailly, A Ward, D Sturridge.
Booked: Rowett, Stimac.
Wimbledon: N Sullivan, K Cunningham, A Kimble, B McAllister, C Perry, V Jones, O Leonhardsen (sub: D Blackwell, 89min), R Earle, N Ardley, E Ekoku (sub: M Harford, 89min), M Gayle.
Booked: Earle, Cunningham.
Referee: A B Wilkie

EVERTON (1) 2 **SHEFF WED** (0) 0
Kanchelskis 16
Stuart 80
34,160

Everton: N Southall, E Barrett, C Short, D Unsworth, A Hinchcliffe, A Kanchelskis, J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, G Speed, G Stuart, M Branch.
Booked: Unsworth
Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, P Atherton, I Nolan, D Walker, G Whittingham (sub: M Williams, 70min), D Hirst (sub: R Humphreys, 45min), A Booth, R Blinker, D Stefanovic, D Trustfull, S Nicol (sub: G Hyde, 45min).
Booked: Grayson.
Referee: P E Alcock.

LEICESTER (0) 1 **LEEDS** (0) 0
Heskey 80
20,359

Leicester City: C Keller, S Grayson, M Whitlow, J Watts, S Walsh, S Prior, M Izzet, N Lennon, S Taylor, I Marshall (sub: G Parker, 76min), E Heskey.
Leeds United: N Martyn, G Kelly, C Palmer, D Wetherall, L Sharpe, R Wallace, R Johson, R Hare, M Ford, A Couzens (sub: L Radebe, 83min), M Jackson.
Booked: Jackson, Wetherall, Palmer.
Referee: S W Dunn.

SOUTHAMPTON (2) 4 **MIDDLESBRO** (0) 0
Oakley 11
Le Tissier 28, 48
Watson 82
15,230

Southampton: N Moss, C Lundekvam, S Charlton, R Dryden, J Magilton, N Maddison, R Slater (sub: N Heaney, 17min, sub: R Wallinson, 72min), M Le Tissier, N Shipperley, G Watson, M Oakley.
Booked: Lundekvam.
Middlesbrough: A Miller, Branco, D Whyte, S Vickers (sub: N Cox, 79min), P Whelan (sub: A Moore, 64min), Emerson, N Barmby, P Stamp, Juninho, F Ravanelli, G Fleming.
Booked: Whelan, Juninho.
Referee: L A Dilkes

Yesterday

MAN UTD (1) 2 **TOTTENHAM** (0) 0
Solskjaer 38, 58
54,943

Manchester United: P Schmeichel, G Neville, D Irwin, D May, G Pallister, E Cantona, N Butt, D Beckham, R Giggs (sub: J Cruyff, 45min), K Poborsky (sub: P Scholes, 64min), O-G Solskjaer
Booked: Beckham, Pallister.
Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, D Howells (sub: J Edinburgh, 70min), C Calderwood, R Fox (sub: R Rosenthal, 83min), A Nielsen, E Sheringham, C Wilson, S Campbell, S Carr, A Sinton, R Allen
Booked: Allen, Howells.
Referee: G S Willard.

WEST HAM (1) 1 **LIVERPOOL** (1) 2
Bilic 15
25,064
Collymore 3
Thomas 55

West Ham United: L Miklosko, T Breacker, J Dicks, I Bishop, M Reper, A Colzae (sub: I Dumitrescu, 76min), I Dowie, J Moncur, M Bowen (sub: H Porfirio, 58min), M Hughes, S Bilic.
Booked: Bilic.
Liverpool: D James, J Scales (sub: N Ruddock, 68min), J McAteer, P Babb, S McManaman, S Collymore (sub: J Redknapp, 19min), J Barnes, P Berger (sub: R Jones, 82min), M Thomas, S-I Bjornebye, D Matteo
Booked: McAteer.
Referee: K Burge.

PREVIEW

THERE is a fitness doubt over Peter Beardsley, the Newcastle United captain, for tonight's match with Aston Villa. However, David Ginola and Steve Howey have both recovered from their recent injuries.



Gayle: scored for Wimbledon

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
F Ravanelli (Middlesbrough)	6	4	0	10
I Wright (Arsenal)	6	0	2	8
L Ferdinand (Newcastle)	4	0	2	6
P Berger (Liverpool)	4	0	1	5
M Le Tissier (Southampton)	4	1	0	5
O-I Solskjaer (Man Utd)	4	0	1	5
K Campbell (Nottm Forest)	4	0	0	4
E Cantona (Man Utd)	4	0	0	4
E Ekoku (Wimbledon)	4	0	0	4
Juninho (Middlesbrough)	4	0	0	4
F Leboeuf (Chelsea)	4	0	0	4
A Shearer (Newcastle)	4	0	0	4
M Gayle (Wimbledon)	3	1	0	4
P Merson (Arsenal)	2	0	2	4

REFEREES

CLAIMS that referees in the FA Carling Premiership are issuing too many red and yellow cards are supported by the figures below. Last season, only two officials reached an average of four cards per match whereas, so far this campaign, eight are already beyond that mark. The two new Premiership referees, Graham Barber and Mike Riley, stand out for their willingness to brandish cards. Their predecessors, Keith Cooper and Robbie Hart, averaged only 2.32 and 2.90, respectively, last season.

The statistics, however, do not reveal the full extent of the problem and the subsequent frustration of managers and players. Disrepute charges have been levelled at the following managers for being critical of referees, Graham Souness (Southampton), Bryan Robson (Middlesbrough), Joe Royle (Everton) and Ron Atkinson and his assistant Gordon Strachan (Coventry City). Peter Reid (Sunderland) will almost certainly be added to that list following his banishment to the stand on Saturday by referee Paul Danson.

	Premier matches	Cards issued Yel	Red	Avge	96-6 avge
G Barber	4	25	0	6.25	–
M Riley	4	23	2	6.25	–
S Dunn	5	25	1	5.20	3.00
M Bodenham	4	20	0	5.00	2.59
P Danson	5	21	3	4.80	3.68
D Elleray*	4	16	3	4.75	2.90
M Reed*	4	17	1	4.50	3.45
G Poll*	4	16	0	4.00	3.90
P Jones*	5	19	0	3.80	3.38
S Lodge*	4	15	0	3.75	4.22
P Alcock	6	19	1	3.33	3.00
G Willard*	6	17	1	3.00	3.24
J Winter	4	12	0	3.00	3.35
K Burge	6	14	0	2.40	2.77
A Wilkie	5	12	0	2.40	4.00
P Durkin*	4	11	0	2.33	3.06
R Dilkes	5	9	0	1.80	1.74
Total	-	291	12	–	–

* denotes on Fifa list.
Nb. It should be noted that Dermot Gallagher* and Gerald Ashby have not officiated a Premiership match yet.



Jean-Pierre Papin, of Bordeaux, helps Andreas Kopke, the Marseille goalkeeper, during their French League match which finished goalless. Photograph: Florian Launette

EUROPE

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Atalanta 1 Internazionale 1; Lazio 2 1; AC Milan 3 Perugia 0; Piacenza 1 Vicenza 0; Reggiana 1 AS Roma 1, Sampdoria 0 Napoli 1; Udinese 2 Bologna 2; Verona 2 Cagliari 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	4	3	0	1	10	4	9
Internazionale	4	2	2	0	4	2	8
Parma	4	2	1	1	7	4	7
Juventus	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Bologna	4	2	1	1	6	4	7
AS Roma	4	2	1	1	7	6	7
Udinese	4	2	1	1	5	4	7
Napoli	4	2	1	1	3	4	7
Vicenza	4	2	0	2	8	6	6
Sampdoria	4	2	0	2	6	4	6
Piacenza	4	1	2	1	3	4	5
Fiorentina	3	1	1	1	6	6	4
Cagliari	4	1	1	2	6	8	4
Lazio	4	1	1	2	3	4	4
Perugia	4	1	0	3	2	6	3
Reggiana	4	0	2	2	4	6	2
Atalanta	4	0	2	2	4	9	2
Verona	4	0	1	3	3	10	1

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Betis 1 Deportivo La Coruna 2; Racing Santander 1 Athletic Bilbao 2; Español 5 Extremadura 1; Real Sociedad 0 Valladolid 0

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Deportivo	5	3	2	0	10	3	11
Real Betis	5	3	1	1	10	3	10
Barcelona	4	3	1	0	10	6	10
Oviedo	4	3	0	1	7	4	9
Real Madrid	4	2	2	0	6	2	8
Real Sociedad	5	2	2	1	5	4	8
Espanyol	5	2	1	2	11	8	7
Sporting Gijon	4	2	1	1	6	4	7
Valladolid	5	2	1	2	5	3	7
R Santander	5	2	1	2	6	8	7
Athletic Bilbao	5	2	1	2	7	10	7
Tenerife	4	2	0	2	8	4	6
Atletico Madrid	4	2	0	2	6	5	6
Compostela	4	2	0	2	5	10	6
Zaragoza	4	1	2	1	5	6	5

GERMAN LEAGUE: SC Karlsruhe 5 Arminia Bielefeld 2; Cologne 2 VfL Bochum 0

FRENCH LEAGUE: Nancy 2 Bastia 2; Marseille 0 Bordeaux 0; Monaco 1 Metz 1; Lens 0 Lyon 1; Montpellier 0 Auxerre 0, Strasbourg 3 Lille 0; Nantes 3 Rennes 3; Cannes 2 Le Havre 0, Caen 1 Nice 2.

DUTCH LEAGUE: First division: RKC Waalwyk 0 Vitesse Arnhem 1, Graafschap Doetinchem 2 Willem II Tilburg 2, Roda JC Kerkrade 0 Fortuna Sittard 1

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Leca 0 Sporting 1

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Racing Genk 1 Alost 1; Standard Liege 3 FC Mechelen 1; RWD Molenbeek 1 Charleroi 3, FC Liersе 1 Mouscron 0; Saint-Trond 2 Lommel 4 Postponed: Royal Antwerp v Lokeren.

Portsmouth 0 Arsenal 2; Queens Park Rsangers 2 Tottenham Hotspur 1; Watford 5 Southend United 3, Second division: Barnet 2 Bristol City 0; AFC Bournemouth 3 Brentford 2; Crystal Palace 2 Brighton 0; Oxford United 1 Southampton 0; Swindon Town 1 Colchester United 2; Tottenham Hotspur 0 Luton Town 2; Wimbledon 1 Reading 2; Wycombe Wanderers 0 Bristol Rovers 5.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Brentwoods 4 Lancing 0; Cholmeleians 0 Foresters 0 First division: Aldershamians 0 Harrowians 1; Wellingbounians 1 Haberdashers 4

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Civil Service v Polytechnic Crouch End Vampires 2 O Esthamseans 1; East Barnet OG 0 O Actonians 0; Nal West Bank 1 Carshalton 2; O Parmiterians 2 Norseman 1; West Wickham 2 South Bank 6, Second division: Alexandra Pk 0 O Stationers 0; Kew Association 1 O Lyonian 1; Lensbury 4 O Latymerians 2; Lloyds Bank 0 Cuaco 0; O Parkonians 2 Winchmore Hill 0, O Saleslans 0 Barclays Bank 0.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Albanian 1 Nottsborough 6; Hale End Ath 2 Wilsan 0; O Finchleians 4 Southgate County 3; St. Mary's Coll 3 Ulysees 2; Wandsworth Bor 3 Parkfield 1 Senior two: City of London 2 Ealing Assoc 0; Mill Hill Village 0 Hadley 1; O Grammarians 1 HAC 1; O Woodhouseians 1 O Simmeroblans 0; UCL Academicals 5 Westerns 2 Senior three: BBC 4 Duncombe Sports 2; Fulham Compton 2 Birkbeck Coll 1; London Welsh 0 Hampstead Heathens 7; O Bealonians 1 Colfeians 0.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Clapham OX 0 Kingsburians 2; Hamptonians 0 Aloysians 1; Ignatians 1 Glyn OB 0, Tentsmarians 1 Meadonians 0; Vaughanians 1 Cardinal Manning 0.

OTHER MATCH: Woking 1 Kuwait XI 0.

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Aston Villa 3 Wolverhampton 0; Bradford 8 Notts County 0; Gunnwood St Helens 0 Sheff Wed 0; Huddersfield 4 Stourport 2 Southern division: Berkhamstead 5 Oxford 0; Langford 0 Three Bridges 4; Whitehawk 2 Ipswich 1; Wimbledon 7 Brighton and Hove 0

NATIONAL

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City 1 Briton Ferry 0, Caersws 0 Cemaes Bay 1, Carmarthen Town 2 Rhyl 1; Connah's Quay 1 Cwmbran 5, Conwy 4 Aberystwyth 0; Holywell 1 Newtown 3; Inter Cable-Tel 1 Llansantffraid 1; Porthmadog 1 Ebbw Vale 1; Ton Pentre 3 Flint Town 0; Welshpool 1 Barry 2.

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Conwy	8	7	0	1	22	7	21
Newtown	8	6	1	1	19	6	19
Inter Cable-Tel	8	6	1	1	17	6	19
Caernarfon T	7	4	3	0	10	5	15
Cemaes Bay	8	4	2	2	13	13	14
Barry Town	5	4	1	0	12	1	13
Porthmadog	8	4	1	3	13	9	13
Cwmbran	8	4	1	3	17	14	13
Ton Pentre	8	4	1	3	14	11	13
Bangor City	7	4	0	3	9	9	12
Ebbw Vale	7	3	1	3	10	9	10
Llansantffraid	8	2	4	2	15	15	10
Connah's Quay	7	3	1	3	15	16	10
Welshpool	7	2	2	3	9	12	8
Flint Town	7	2	2	3	7	12	8

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Coleraine 1 Ards 0; Crusaders 2 Glenavon 2; Glentoran 1 Cliftonville 1; Portadown 0 Linfield 0. First division: Ballyclare 3 Omagh 1; Bangor 0 Ballymena 3; Distillery 2 Carrick 0; Newry 1 Larne 3

FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Finn Harps 5 Dundalk 0, Sligo 3 Bray 2; Cork 2 Shelbourne 1, UCD 0 St Patrick's Ath 1.

FAI SHIELD: Southern section: Kilkenny 2 Cobh Ramblers 1, Limerick 0 Galway 0

CARLSBERG EAST OF SCOTLAND CUP: First round: Arniston 0 Newtongrange 1

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	2	2	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1
1	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

FORECAST: Half time dividend forecast is fairly good. No claims are required. Winnings are sent automatically. Full time: dividend forecast is very good. Claims are invited for 23 points although winnings are sent automatically

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

DUNDEE UTD (0) 1 **ABERDEEN** (0) 0
McSwegan 67
10,359
Sent off: D Winnies (Aberdeen) 75

DUNFERLINE (1) 3 **RAITH** (0) 1
Britton 45
French 51
Miller 90
8,634
Tweddle 47

HIBERNIAN (0) 1 **HEARTS** (3) 3
Jackson 57 (pen)
14,746
Cameron 19, 30
Robertson 40

MOTHERWLL (1) 1 **KILMARNOCK** (0) 0
Arnott 19
5,700
Sent off: J Dolan (Motherwll) 86
D Anderson (Kilmarnock) 86

RANGERS (0) 2 **CELTIC** (0) 0
Gough 51
Gascoigne 89
50,210
Sent off: T McKinlay (Celtic) 43

FIRST DIVISION

EAST FIFE (0) 2 **STIRLING** (1) 2
Scott 53
Hutcheon 63
662
McCormack 43
Paterson 79

FALKIRK (1) 1 **AIRDRIE** (1) 1
Hagan 9
4,500
Connelly 5

G MORTON (0) 1 **ST MIRREN** (2) 3
Hawke 50
3,500
Mendes 12
Dick 35
Hetherston 65
Sent off: P Flannery (G Morton) 21

PARTICK (1) 1 **CLYDEBANK** (0) 0
Evans 7
1,974

ST JOHNSTN (0) 0 **DUNDEE** (1) 1
5,112
Shaw 10

SECOND DIVISION

AYR (1) 2 **STRANRAER** (0) 0
Smith 8
Kerrigan 67
1,915

CLYDE (0) 1 **BRECHIN** (0) 0
Annand 56
635

DUMBARTON (0) 1 **STENHOUSEMUIR** (0) 1
Meechan 67
524
Henderson 85

HAMILTON (0) 2 **QUEEN OF SOUTH** (1) 2
McGill 52
Ritchie 88
721
Mallan 14
Flannigan 67 (pen)

LIVINGSTON (1) 2 **BERWICK** (0) 1
Harvey 4 (pen), 77
2,398
Forrester 63

THIRD DIVISION

ALLOA (1) 1 **EAST STIRLING** (0) 0
Cowan 45
501
Sent off: S McKay (Alloa) 60
W Irvine (Alloa) 88

ARBROATH (0) 0 **COWDNBTH** (1) 1
399
Petrie 41

MONTROSE (2) 4 **FORFAR** (1) 1
McGlashan 4 (pen)
Masson 38, 71
Taylor 60
Mann 27
697

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 1 **ALBION** (0) 1
Falconer 18
583
McKenzie 86

ROSS CO (0) 1 **CALEY THIS** (1) 3
Adams 62
3,598
Stewart 4, 64
Thomson 89

GOALSCORERS

PREMIER DIVISION: 14 Dodds (Aberdeen), 10 Cadete (Celtic); Windass (Aberdeen) 9; McCoist (Rangers); Van Vossen (Rangers) 7, Van Hooydonk (Celtic), Gascoigne (Rangers) 6 Britton (Dunfermline), 5 Thom (Celtic) 5; McSwegen (Dundee United) 4; Robertson (Hearts), Glass (Aberdeen) 3; Arnott (Motherwell); Di Canio (Celtic); Van der Gaag (Motherwell)

FIRST DIVISION: 9 Lilley (Greenock Morton), 8 Grant (St Johnstone) 6 Hamilton (Dundee) 5 O'Boyle (St Johnstone), Evans (Partick) 4 Flannery (Greenock Morton), Hetherston (St Mirren); Scott (St Johnstone) Stirling (Partick) Tosh (Dundee) 3, McCormack (Stirling), McPhee (Airdrie), Cooper (Airdrie); Gillies (St Mirren) Henderson (Partick)

SECOND DIVISION: 7 Harvey (Livingston), Annand (Clyde); Flannigan (Queen of South), Kerrigan (Ayr) 6 Smith (Ayr), English (Ayr) 5 Sloan (Stranraer), 4 McGill (Hamilton); Mallan (Queen of South), Young (Livingston)

THIRD DIVISION: 6 Dwyer (Alloa) 5 Taylor (Montrose); McGlashan (Montrose); McGuire (Alloa); McKenzie (Albion) 4 (Alloa); Watters (Arbroath); Higgins (Forfar); Stewart (Caledonian Thistle), Thomson (Caledonian Thistle)

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

BROMSGROVE (1) 4 **SLOUGH** (1) 1
Culpo 16
Mannering 68, 76
Gardner 70
Walton 28
686

NORTHWICH (1) 2 **MACCLSFLD** (0) 1
Howarth 36 (og)
Cooke 75
Mottram 89
1,527

TELFORD (0) 0 **ALTRNCHM** (0) 0
878

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Stevenage	11	5	0	0	17	4	3	1	2	6	7	25
2 Kidderminst	12	3	2	1	11	7	4	0	2	11	3	23
3 Slough	13	4	2	1	19	7	2	1	3	7	12	21
4 Macclsfld	12	3	2	0	7	3	2	3	2	6	4	20
5 Southport	10	3	1	1	6	2	3	2	1	5	4	16
6 Telford	13	3	1	2	6	6	3	2	3	6	5	18
7 Farnborough	10	2	3	2	8	8	3	0	1	6	2	17
8 Woking	11	2	3	1	9	7	2	2	1	6	7	17
9 Northwich	11	4	0	2	6	4	1	2	2	3	9	17
10 Hednesford	9	3	2	0	9	1	1	2	1	6	7	16
11 Altrncham	12	2	2	2	8	8	1	4	1	5	8	15
12 Dover	11	2	2	1	8	8	1	3	2	7	7	14
13 Kettering	11	1	3	2	9	8	2	1	2	5	5	13
14 Morecambe	9	1	1	2	4	5	2	2	1	9	7	12
15 Gateshead	10	1	3	1	9	7	2	0	3	7	9	12
16 Bromsgrove	13	3	0	3	11	8	1	0	6	3	13	12
17 Welling	10	2	0	3	7	11	1	2	2	8	9	11
18 Halifax	11	3	1	2	12	9	0	1	4	3	14	11
19 Runcorn &D	11	0	3	2	3	6	2	1	3	11	16	10
20 Hayes	10	1	4	1	4	4	0	2	2	4	7	9
21 Bath	10	2	0	2	5	6	0	2	4	7	14	8
22 Sidybridge	10	1	1	3	4	6	0	2	3	4	13	6

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

DR MARTENS

PREMIER DIVISION: King's Lynn 2 Halesowen 1, Nuneaton 3 Gravesend and Northfleet 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gloucester City	9	7	0	2	21	9	21
Grasley Rovers	8	6	3	0	15	4	21
Cheltenham	9	6	1	2	17	8	19
Salisbury	9	5	3	1	16	10	18
Halesowen	10	5	2	3	16	11	17
Nuneaton	11	5	2	4	14	11	17
Burton	9	4	3	2	13	10	15
Sudbury Tn	9	4	1	4	20	16	13
Baldock Tn	9	4	1	4	18	17	13
Cambridge City	8	3	3	3	17	15	12
Hastings	9	3	3	3	17	17	12
Merthyr	9	3	3	3	16	17	12
Atherstone	9	3	2	4	10	11	11
Ashford Town	10	2	5	3	15	17	11
Crawley Town	9	3	2	4	12	14	11
Kings Lynn	10	3	2	5	11	20	11
Sittingbourne	9	3	1	5	17	20	10
Worcester City	9	3	1	5	11	14	10
Dorchester	9	2	2	5	11	19	8
Chelmsford	9	1	4	4	14	21	7
Gravesend & N	10	2	1	7	13	22	7
Newport AFC	9	1	3	5	6	15	6

MIDLAND DIVISION: Dudley 1 Moor Green 2; Raunds 0 Hinckley 0; Redditch 1 Stafford 0; Sutton Coldfield 2 VS Rugby 0; Southern division: Dartford 1 Fleet 0; Newport (IoW) 1 Margate 1, Waterlooville 1 Havant 2; Yate 4 Erith B 1

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Alfreton 1 Accrington Stanley 3, Barrow 3 Witton 1; Colwyn Bay 3 Blyth Spartans 0, Knowsley 4 Buxton 1, Spennymoor 6 Runcorn 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leek Town	9	8	1	0	22	4	25
Blyth Spartans	10	6	2	2	14	7	20
Hyde Utd	9	5	3	1	16	5	18
Barrow	10	5	3	2	16	12	18
Boston Utd	9	4	3	2	17	8	15
Spennymoor	11	4	3	4	19	13	15
Knowsley	9	4	3	2	16	10	15
Marine	9	4	2	3	9	13	14
Bishop Auckland	8	3	4	1	16	8	13
Gainsborough	7	4	1	2	13	9	13
Accrington S	9	4	1	4	14	15	13
Colwyn Bay	9	3	2	4	10	11	11
Witton Alb	11	2	5	4	9	16	11
Chorley	9	3	1	5	15	18	10
Guiseley	6	3	1	4	9	11	10
Lancaster	8	3	1	4	10	13	10
Runcorn	9	2	4	3	8	15	10
Emley	8	2	3	3	13	14	9
Frickley	8	1	4	3	11	14	7
Alfreton Town	10	1	4	5	8	18	7
Winsford Utd	8	1	3	4	7	12	6
Bamber Bridge	8	1	2	5	8	18	5
Buxton	10	1	2	7	5	22	5

FIRST DIVISION: Gretna 1 Lincoln United 1, Matlock Town 0 Harrogate Town 2, Radcliffe 1 Workssop 1, Warrington 2 Droylsden 2

ICIS

PREMIER DIVISION: Enfield 3 Sutton United 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yeovil	8	6	1	1	14	6	19
Heybridge	8	6	1	1	16	10	19
Enfield	9	5	3	1	19	11	18
Sutton Utd	8	5	2	1	20	15	17
Dag and Red	7	4	1	2	9	5	13
Oxford City	9	4	1	4	20	18	13
Yeading	8	4	1	3	12	12	13
Dulwich	7	4	0	3	15	10	12
Boreham Wood	7	4	0	3	12	12	12
Bromley	8	3	2	3	13	10	11
St Albans	8	3	2	3	13	11	11
Aylesbury	8	3	2	3	8	8	11
Harrow Borough	8	3	1	4	14	14	10
Purfleet	8	3	1	4	9	13	10
Kingstonian	9	3	0	6	16	17	9
Staines	8	3	0	5	9	15	9
Hitchin	10	3	0	7	13	24	9
Carshalton	8	2	2	4	7	10	8
Bishop's S	8	2	2	4	9	13	8
Chertsey Town	8	2	2	4	11	17	8
Grays	8	2	1	5	9	14	7
Hendon	8	1	3	4	9	12	6

FIRST DIVISION: Basingstoke 2 Maidenhead United 0; Berkhamsted 0 Worthing 2; Leyton Pennant 2 Whyteleafe 1; Walton and Hersham 0 Wokingham 3, Second division: Banstead 3 Chalfont St Peter 1; Bedford Town 1 Dorking 1, Leatherhead 8 Hemel Hempstead 0; Leighton 2 Egham 1, Metropolitan Police 4 Barking 0; Tilbury 3 Ware 1; Wembley 7 Cheshunt 0; Windsor and Eton 1 Wivenhoe 1 Third division: Aveley 3 Hertford 1, Hornchurch 0 Harlow 2; Kingsbury 0 Clapton 1; Lewes 0 Flackwell Heath 1, Northwood 3 Southall 2; Wingate and Finchley 0 Camberley 5

ESSEX

FOOTBALL: CELTIC PAY HEAVY PENALTY FOR REFEREE'S DECISION NOT TO PENALISE GOUGH'S CHALLENGE ON DI CANIO

Gascoigne underlines firm grasp of need for creativity

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

FOR the best footballers, creativity is a compulsion. In the last minute of the Old Firm match at Ibrox on Saturday, a header from John Hughes, of Celtic, that might have levelled the score struck the bar. At such moments, fright and relief muddle the mind and the ordinary player would have sought to expel the danger by blasting the ball clear. Paul Gascoigne does not have those orthodox instincts.

Taking possession in the Rangers penalty area, he saw only opportunities for a thrust on the left flank. The move found its outlet in Albertz and he lifted a cross over a weary defence to the fringes of Celtic's six-yard box. There was Gascoigne. Having covered 100 yards to complete the move he had initiated, the Englishman stretched, twisted and headed past Marshall to secure a 2-0 victory.

Injuries and his own immaturity have tarnished Gascoigne's career, but a trace of greatness is still visible. His superiority to the men around him is not just a matter of technique, of weight of pass and refinement of touch. It is intentions as much as skills that separate such a figure from the array of competent professionals.

For once in an Old Firm match, however, Rangers did not enjoy a monopoly of audacity. Celtic had, in Paolo Di Canio, an import who was stirred, rather than daunted, by the Glaswegian frenzy and stimulated too by the peculiar difficulties his team faced. The side lacked both its normal forwards.

Jorge Cadete was merely injured but the absence of Pierre van Hooijdonk is a far more florid tale. A contractual dispute with the club has led to a series of disagreements. On Friday morning, the Dutchman, who is prone to fits of imperiousness, was unwilling to declare himself fit, after a minor injury, and asked for another 24 hours to make his decision. Tommy Burns, the Celtic manager, believes his authority is being flouted and has now accused Van Hooijdonk of trying to evade the rules that govern the other players.

Concluding that his authority must be strengthened, even at the cost of weakening the side, Burns dropped the forward from the squad for Ibrox. Di Canio, whose excitability had previously suggested a self-indulgent temperament, treasured the extra responsibilty that then lay with him.

The match might well have had a different outcome if the rules of the game had been properly applied in the tenth minute when the Italian broke through.

Flummoxed by Di Canio's footwork, Richard Gough floored him. There was no instant award of the penalty and some believe Willie Young, the referee, was giving the Celtic player the advantage. If so, it was a perverse decision. Di Canio, after all, was lying face down on the pitch and, while he did try to scramble to his feet, he was forced to attempt a shot from a reclining position. Andy Goram blocked it.

Rangers, too, found cause to complain about an official in charge of his first Old Firm game, but his refusal to give Celtic a warranted penalty had the greatest ramifications. In addition to having an opportunity to take the lead, the visitors would also have been left facing ten men since Gough's offence, as the last defender, should have been punished with an ordering-off.

As it was, Celtic were to lose a player when Tosh McKinlay, in the 43rd minute, brought the club its eighth dismissal of the season. The full back collected his second yellow card after foolishly handling the ball in Rangers' half. Gough, on the other hand, remained on the pitch and went on to score the opening goal.

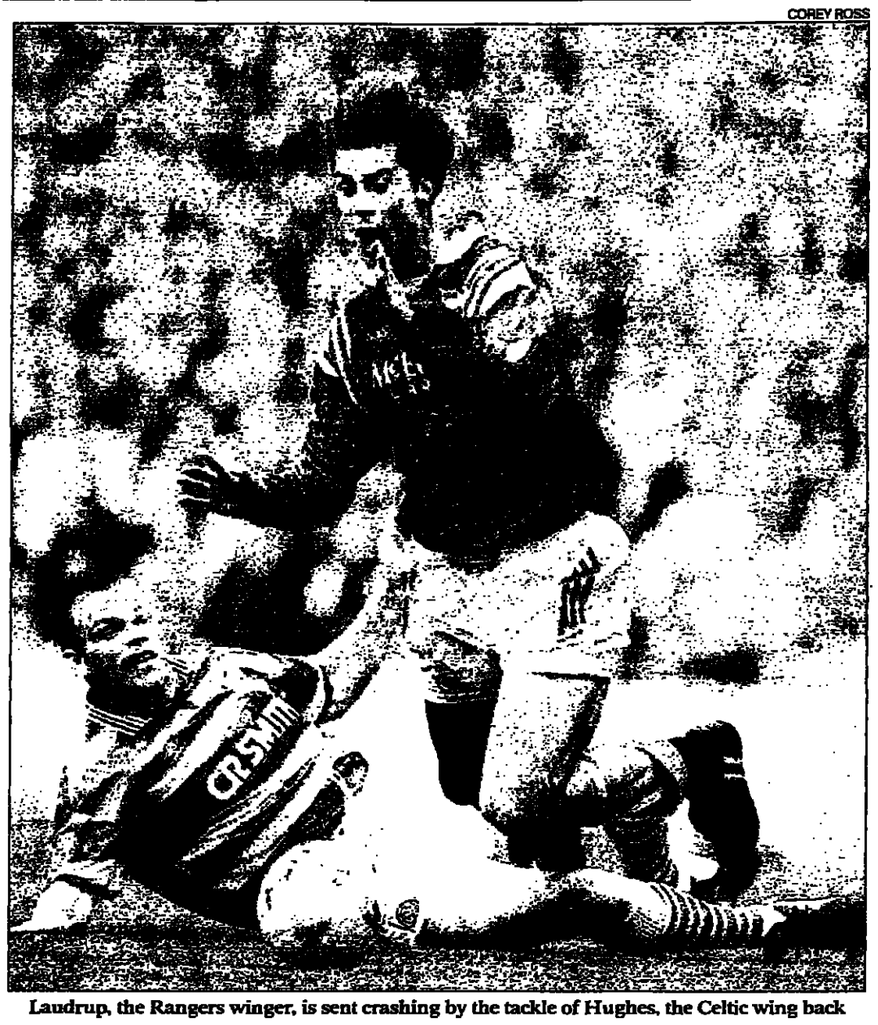
When Celtic were not irate, they were exasperated. Even before Hughes hit the bar, Peter Grant had come close to the equaliser with a drive that bounced off the inside of a post and rolled along the goalline to safety. Burns's side have now failed to win any of the last seven Old Firm matches.

The differences in quality between the two teams was marginal on Saturday and the course of the game would have been radically altered by the slightest tweak to events. Rangers now hold a five-point lead in the Bell's Scottish League premier division, but the next meeting of the clubs is only five games away.

While the losers on Saturday will console themselves with the knowledge that chances remain to close the gap, there is now a trend that sees them take only regrets from crucial fixtures. Burns is badly in need of victory over Rangers on November 14, for his future with Celtic is being jeopardised by the string of narrow failures. An absence of luck remains the most common cause for the sacking of managers.

RANGERS (3-5-2): A Goram — G Petric, R Gough, J Bjorklund — C Moore (sub: I Ferguson, 62min), S McCall, P Gascoigne, J Albertz, A Cleland — P Van Vossen, B Laudrup.
CELTIC (3-5-2): G Marshall — J Hughes, A Stubbs, T Boyd — J McNamara, B O'Neil (sub: B McLaughlin, 76), P Grant, A Thom (sub: M Weaghorst, 22), T McKinlay — P Di Canio, S Donnelly.
Referee: W Young.

COREY ROSS



Laudrup, the Rangers winger, is sent crashing by the tackle of Hughes, the Celtic wing back

Jacobs goal worth the wait for Bradford

Port Vale 1
Bradford City 1

BY DAVID MADDOCK

IT WAS a long time in coming, but at least it was worth the wait. Bradford City finally scored a goal away from home after close on 500 minutes of trying. It was enough to earn a point, their first away from home this season.

And a splendid goal it was. Wayne Jacobs, the Bradford full back, penetrated the Port Vale defence, where a host of forwards had failed before him, with a thunderous left-foot free kick from 30 yards that fairly exploded into the top of the net.

The visiting supporters broke into a spontaneous chorus of hallelujah when the goal finally arrived in the 83rd minute, and their players joined together to pose for a mock team photo, such was the relief.

It was well deserved, however, because the Yorkshire side had taken the initiative throughout the contest and had refused to resort to the stock fare of the Nationwide League first division — the long ball — even when all seemed lost.

In fact, both sides can take some credit for their approach on an afternoon more suited to a Gene Kelly movie. It wasn't so much singing in the rain, though, as slipping in it, the treacherous conditions making the determination of the players to attempt a passing game even more admirable.

Not that the credit is unreserved, because for the most part they failed to build on good intentions, rendering the match a sometimes grim spectacle.

There were some moments to at least drive the damp from the spirit. Steve Guppy made a lasting impression down Vale's left flank, and as early as the second minute he signalled his intent with a wicked cross that Gordon Cowans, the veteran midfield player, did well to divert past his own post.

Guppy combined well with Bogie to set up McCarthy soon after, but the weak effort was saved. The winger was not to be denied, however, and when Mohan made a pig's ear of an attempt at a back-pass in the 38th minute, Guppy raced around Nixon, the Bradford goalkeeper, to score.

Bradford's response was to throw on three forwards, and keep playing. The effect was muted at first, only Duxbury troubling the Vale goal with a sharp shot from the edge of the box that was well saved.

But the balance of the game was tipping slowly their way, and Jacobs's goal was reward for perseverance in such appalling conditions.

PORT VALE (4-4-2): A Van Heusden — A Hill, N Aspin, D Glover, A Tankard (sub: S Talbot, 52min) — J McCarthy, A Porter, I Bogie (sub: R Walker, 66), S Guppy — L Mills (sub: M Foyle, 78), A Naylor.
BRADFORD CITY (5-3-2): E Nixon — R Liburd, N Mohan, M Sas, G Mitchell (sub: A Kiwomya, 46), W Jacobs — D Hamilton (sub: E Rigtop, 46), G Cowans, L Duxbury — M Stallard (sub: C Shutt, 55), I Moore
Referee: S Mathieson.

Todd rues Bolton's failure to profit from dominance

Bolton Wanderers 1
Stoke City 1

BY PETER BALL

WITH Phil Brown back, now standing gesticulating in the old Bruce Rioch position alongside the bench, rather than setting off along the touchline from right back, and the team at the top of the Nationwide League first division and playing some excellent football, it was like old times at Burnden Park on Saturday. Normal service resumed after one season above their station.

It has taken Bolton Wanderers commendably little time to recover from the disappointment of that Premiership year. Stubbs and Curcic have gone, and Stubbs may be missed, but the arrival of Frandsen and Johansen means that the squad has suffered little, as the league table suggests, and the bank balance is healthier.

On Saturday, they dominated the game against one of their closest rivals. Only the result let them down. Graham Kavanagh, Stoke's on-loan midfield player, snatching an equaliser in the closing moments. "We were 30 seconds away from winning," Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, reflected.

Shades of last season. And, worryingly for Bolton, for all the good football, Saturday's game suggested that, if they go up, the same fate as last time could befall them.

Frandsen was outstanding, winning the ball strongly and using it perceptively and accurately. Unlike Curcic, he kept the Bolton attacks flowing with his passes rather than going off on individual sorties, and both Sellars and Thompson benefited.

Thompson has settled in central midfield with Sellars outside him. "I think I've improved a lot as a player," Thompson said. "I got stick from the fans last season, and I wanted to show them I'm not a failure." He is doing that, his partnership with Frandsen working well.

The only things to mar Thompson's day was a yellow card for a tackle from behind — and the Stoke equaliser. "It was my third booking of the season," Thompson said ruefully. "I get a bit excited and go for the ball when it isn't mine."

For all Bolton's excellent football, though, they ended up with only one goal, scored by Blake when the otherwise solid Sigurdsson made his one mistake, and with only one point. They are already among the favourites for promotion, but missed chances could provide a warning of what may lie ahead.

"They created a lot of chances, but they didn't capitalise on them, and that was their downfall in the end," Kavanagh, the Stoke goalscorer, said. "I think we only had two shots and the third was a goal."

"We lost possession and one pass caused us a bit of a problem," Todd admitted. "It's a bit of a learning process." But with two internationals, Bolton's back four is not lacking experience — the relevant question is: can you teach old defenders new skills?

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagen — G Bergsson, C Fairclough, G Taggart, J Phillips — M Johansen (sub: A Todd, 76min), P Frandsen, A Thompson, S Sellars (sub: D Lee, 68) — J McGinlay (sub: S Taylor, 87), N Blake.
STOKE CITY (4-4-2): C Muggleton — A Pickering, L Sigurdsson, J Dreyer, N Worthington — M Devlin (sub: J McMahon, 46), R Wallace, G Kavanagh, R Forsyth — M Sheron, J Gayle (sub: K Keen, 66)
Referee: G Stretton.

Rovers relishing return to roots

Bristol Rovers 2
Chesterfield 0

BY PAT GIBSON

IT WILL never replace *Goodnight Irene* as the supporters' song but *There's No Place Like Home* might have been more appropriate as Bristol Rovers showed on Saturday that they are beginning to settle down in new surroundings after ten long years of exile at Twerton Park, Bath.

The Memorial Ground, headquarters of Bristol Rugby Club, may not be Eastville, Rovers' ancestral pile which went to the dogs or, more precisely, the greyhounds a decade ago. It is in the blue and white quarter of the City, however, and the Gas Heads, so called because of the huge gasometer which used to dominate the old place, are much happier now.

"I cannot describe how it feels to be back in Bristol," Ian Holloway, the player-manager, said. "We were Bath Rovers and it hurt when the City fans were singing: 'There's only one team in Bristol.'"

Holloway, who is in his third spell with Rovers, was not the only Bristolian who was pleased to be back. Jamie Cureton supported Rovers as a boy but was given his chance by Norwich City. Holloway has now taken him on loan for a month with a view to a £250,000 transfer and he scored the two goals which ended Chesterfield's run of four successive away victories.

Perhaps it was the environment which knocked them out of their stride. The Memorial Ground does not look much like a soccer stadium at the moment because of work on a new £2 million stand. The pitch was bigger and the grass longer than they are used to.

Chesterfield might have scored twice in the first two minutes but Rovers gradually wore them down and deservedly took the lead in the 58th minute when Cureton darted in between two defenders to score with a diving header. Ten minutes later, after a Lockwood corner, he drove into the roof of the net from the narrowest of angles.

These were the first goals Chesterfield had conceded away from home since April and it was an admission of defeat when they took off Mercer 15 minutes from the end to prevent him from doing any further damage to a thigh injury and put Law, a defender, in goal. He collected two stitches in a cut above the eye for his pains.

BRISTOL ROVERS (4-4-2): A Collett — L Mann, B Clark, A Tillson, G Power — A Gurney, I Holloway, J Skinner, L Archer (sub: M Lockwood, 13min) — J Cureton, P Beadle
CHESTERFIELD (4-3-3): B Mercer (sub: N Law, 73) — J Hewitt, M Williams, S Dyche, L Rogers — T Curtis, S Gaughan (sub: C Beaumont, 64), M Jules (sub: C Perkins, 76) — J Howard, K Davies, A Lormor
Referee: D Orr

Cambridge begin new drive forward

Exeter City 0
Cambridge United 1

BY DAVID POWELL

AS I left the ground, two Exeter City players were driving away in their cars. One was at the wheel of an F-reg, the other in a G. It was a reminder that the game of two haves — the haves and havenots — is lengthening the pitch.

"The days of a Wimbledon have gone," Reg Smart, the Cambridge United chairman, said, "the gap is too big." Five seasons ago, Cambridge reached the second division play-offs, a chance to ride with the FA Premier League in its first season. They lost in the semi-finals and were relegated twice in three seasons.

While those who entered the 1992 semi-finals with Cambridge — Derby County, Blackburn Rovers and Leicester City — enjoy the benefits of Premiership membership, Cambridge, losing £1,000 a day, has advertised itself for sale.

"We are not going into liquidation tomorrow, it is not that dire," Smart said. In fact, he said, the club made a profit last year, but only by selling players. Selling the club might enable Cambridge to keep its best talent.

"It costs about £14-15,000 a week to run the club," Ivor Doble, the Exeter chairman, said. When Peter Fox, the Exeter manager, dedicated his programme notes to Cambridge's plight, it was out of empathy. Exeter have only just emerged from two years in administration.

While even the Premiership minnows splash out, Exeter's record transfer outlay, £65,000 for Tony Kellow in 1980, looks set in stone. The £10,000 spent on Steve Flack this month was Exeter's first buy for many a year.

"Three or four years ago, to buy an average player, you had to pay a £10,000 signing-on fee," Doble said. "Now, in 99 per cent of division three cases, there is no signing-on fee. The win bonuses are still there, but at a much more reasonable figure."

Not that Exeter's players are earning many after five defeats in their past six League matches. Cambridge, with a goal from McGleish, moved up to fourth. Promotion bonuses may be on their way. Exeter's players will have to keep their old cars.

EXETER CITY (4-4-2): A Bayes — J Richardson, B Gayle, N Blake, J Sharpe — B McConnell, C Myers, M Dailly (sub: T Steele, 70min), L Hodges — L Braithwaite (sub: S Ghazghazi, 81), S Flack.
CAMBRIDGE UNITED (3-5-2): S Barrett — D Thompson, J Craddock, D Granville — M Joseph, W Beall, P Wanless, M Hyde, J Barnwell — A Richards, S McGleish (sub: P Raynor, 84).
Referee: M Pierce

Leworthy turns tide for Dover

Dover Athletic 2
Aldershot Town 0

BY WALTER GAMMIE

ALDERSHOT Town left Crabble on Saturday keenly aware of the work to be done to climb to the Vauxhall Conference after two masterly pieces of finishing by David Leworthy had given Dover Athletic a comfortable passage through an FA Cup second qualifying round tie.

Dover, happy to avoid tripping up against Icis League first division opposition for a second successive time after losing to Bognor Regis Town last year, gave further confirmation that they are settling down under the management of Joe O'Sullivan.

O'Sullivan was promoted before the season when Peter Taylor left to take over as England under-21 manager. Early form was patchy, but the victory over Aldershot extended the unbeaten run of a rebuilt team to eight matches.

The constant in Dover's four seasons in the Conference has been Leworthy, 34 next month but as deadly a finisher as ever. His first goal, in the ninth minute, saw him take a pass from O'Connell and gain a yard to make an angle from which he sent the ball past Watson at a trickle.

The second goal followed a promising Aldershot break cut abruptly short when Tucker's back-heel presented Dover with an instant chance to retaliate, Dobbs crossing and Leworthy turning in a crisp, first-time shot.

The second goal, just before half-time, allowed Dover to relax their efforts but Aldershot failed to convert any of the half-chances that would have had their noisy supporters raising the roof. Instead, they had indignity heaped on them when Brodrick, their beanpole central defender, collected his second yellow card for a tackle on Reina.

Steve Wigley, the Aldershot manager, said: "One of the reasons we missed promotion last year was that we played 20 cup-ties, which took its toll in injuries and suspensions by the time we came to March." So defeat had its brighter side.

DOVER ATHLETIC (3-4-1-2): B Horne — I O'Connell, A Theodoulou, S Daniels — S Lindsey, J Strouts, G Stebbing, P Berber — G Dobbs — D Leworthy, R Reina.
ALDERSHOT TOWN (3-1-4-2): M Watson — S Turner, D Brodrick, N Burton — S Udal — A Cleeve (sub: N Selby, 73min), A Parr, J Tucker (sub: A Head, 67), J Chewins — M Butler (sub: R Young, 60), D Adams
Referee: W Norbury



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RUGBY LEAGUE

Goulding's perfect six save the day for Britain

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE unbeaten Great Britain squad arrive in Fiji today for what should be the most straightforward leg of their Pacific tour. Nadi, the team's base, promises no let-up in temperature from Papua New Guinea. At least the opposition and atmosphere should be less intimidating.

There is a midweek fixture on Wednesday before Britain's international match next Saturday against Fiji, who were swamped 46-0 by England in the World Cup last year. The side will be looking for a far more comprehensive victory than the 32-30 defeat of Papua at Lae on Saturday, in which the lead changed hands five times.

In stifling conditions, Britain used a tank of oxygen and went through 26 substitutions under the unlimited interchange rule to see off a committed Papua side, that outscored the touring team six tries to five. The goalkicking of Elias Paiyo, the Kumuls hooker, let them down. He missed three of eight attempts, whereas Bobbie Goulding struck a perfect six.

Phil Larder, the Britain coach, said: "The heat and humidity were unbelievable and in those conditions it's all about a test of character, guts and nerves. Bobbie had the



Goulding: superb kicking

nerves and the rest showed the guts and character."

Goulding's performance, which included a try courtesy of Iestyn Harris, his solid halfback partner, was even more remarkable considering that he was a victim of the stomach bug that had infected the British camp in the days leading up to the game. Andrew Farrell, the captain, had been lined up as place-kicker, but Goulding rewarded Larder by his insistence that he should take the goal kicks.

Before a 10,000 crowd, smaller and more peaceful than that involved in a riot in which four people died a week before, Britain refused to be intimidated. The home side led at the break after tries by Stanley Gene, David Gomia and Adrian Lam, reviving memories of Goroka in 1990 and Britain's only defeat by Papua New Guinea.

The first of Kris Radlinski's two tries early in the second half restored Britain's lead following earlier touchdowns by Goulding and Cunningham, on his debut. Anthony Sullivan added another and the visitors narrowly resisted a stirring Papua fightback, including a second try by Bire and another by Sio.

ATHLETICS

Competitors' body given fair share of responsibility

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE British Athletic Federation (BAF), which has fumbled its handling of the baton too often lately, has accepted the offer of a steadying influence. The BAF Council agreed in Birmingham at the weekend to let Great Britain's most prominent athletes have an equal say in the promotion and commercial development of the sport.

Roger Black, Britain's 400 metres Olympic silver medal-winner and one of the prime movers behind a new professional athletes' association, said yesterday that he felt "very pleased, very proud", when the council voted overwhelmingly, on Saturday, in favour of welcoming his organisation into the decision-making process.

The athletes' body, as yet unnamed but likely to be called the British Athletes' Association, will have its first board meeting on Wednesday. Geoff Parsons, the 1994 Commonwealth Games high jump bronze medal-winner, is to be its first full-time paid head. Parsons and Black created the body which, in its embryonic state, ten months ago, helped to change British Olympic selection policy.

The association will be part-funded by the BAF, £59,000 having been promised already. "The benefits it will bring to BAF will be huge and it will be funded in other ways, for us to devise," Black said.

Lower attendances and poor-quality meetings have embarrassed the federation this summer, and Black is in no doubt about the early priorities. "Step No 1 is filling the stadiums, then everybody starts to get a better feeling," he said. "The important thing is that, for the first time, the people who determine whether spectators turn up — the athletes — are now involved."

According to Black, the athletes' body will have a 50-50 say with BAF over issues such as how to improve attendances and the number of

Results 37

meetings promoted each summer. A board of, probably, 18 existing internationals will determine association policy.

It will be, Black said: "a flexible board", one comprising athletes of the day, rather than retired ones. As the years pass, "some key players may have to stay on to keep stability and pass on their knowledge, but it will be a rolling ball".

Parsons has been chosen, according to Black, for his "skills, passion and concern for British athletics". His first tasks, Black said, were to "set up the association, the constitution, and to represent the athletes during the decision-making process at the professional end of the sport".

One area in which Black does not expect to have a say is pay. Will not the athletes' new power allow them to pay themselves more? "No: I do not think the athletes should be allowed to be part of that decision," Black said. "That is not what this has been about.

"Everybody has been blaming everybody else. Empty stadiums. Is it that the athletes are not co-operative? Is it that the federation does not put on the meetings properly? Is it that the press do not write the right stories? Let us all accept part of the blame and work together. A year ago the athletes might have set up their own association and split the sport. Other sports have done that. We did not choose to do that."

As the last of the year's global titles were contested yesterday, Britain's final hope of a 1996 champion disappeared when Liz McColgan dropped out after nine miles of the half-marathon world championships in Palma, Majorca. It set the seal on a frustrating year.

Although Britain's athletes did not do badly at the Olympics, the world cross country championships or the world junior championships, they did not win anything. McColgan was seventh when forced out by injury. Xiujuan Ren, from China, won the women's title in 1hr 10min 39sec. Stefano Baldini, from Italy, took the men's in 1hr 01min 17sec.



Stylish Olympic champion Jeannie Longo, of France, went flat out in Stuttgart yesterday but failed in her attempt to break the women's one-hour record

CYCLING

Wilkinson crowned as leading all-rounder

BY PETER BRYAN

ANDY WILKINSON has had such a successful time-trial season that he has even eclipsed his record ride from Land's End to John o' Groat's in 1990. Yesterday, although the outcome has hardly been in doubt for the last fortnight, he became Britain's best all-rounder, with a record average speed of 28.236mph for events at 50 and 100 miles and over 12 hours.

The New Brighton rider set national records in all three qualifying events — 50 miles in 1hr 37min 27sec, 100 miles in 3hr 27min 39sec and a 12-hour mileage of 300.270.

After being beaten in the Harrogate Nova 50-mile trial yesterday, finishing half a minute behind Kevin Dawson, twice a holder of the all-rounder title, the new champion expressed his regret at not being chosen for the world time-trial championship in Switzerland next week.

"With a season like that behind me, I thought I would be in with a chance of selection," he said.

Chris Boardman, who won the title two years ago and finished third in this year's Olympic event, was an automatic choice and the selectors have now decided that Chris Newton, his North Wirral team colleague, is to fill the one other place.

Jennie Longo, of France, failed in her attempt to beat Yvonne McGregor's world one-hour record of 47.411 kilometres in Stuttgart yesterday, finishing 904 metres short of the Briton's distance.

FOOTBALL

England go out as Serra stands firm

BY SARAH FORDE

THE England women footballers' dream of reaching the finals of the European championship next summer came to an end yesterday when they were held 1-1 in the second leg of their play-off against Spain at Prenton Park, Tranmere. Spain went through 3-2 on aggregate, having won the first leg in Montilla 2-1 three weeks ago.

For all England's dominance, they could not break down their combative opponents, who had four players booked for some bruising challenges. More worrying for Ted Copeland, the England coach, was the loss of Kelly Smith in the dying minutes. Smith, 17, who has illuminated England's ultimately unsuccessful qualifying campaign, went off on a stretcher.

By that stage, Spain had dealt with everything England could muster in attack — albeit with increasing desperation in the final quarter.

Spain took the lead in the fortieth minute. The England defence had been redundant up until that point and their lack of practice in dealing with the pace of Spain's front two was all too evident. Maria Mar Prieto won the ball in a challenge with Kelly Few and picked out Yolanda Mateos, who cruised past Maureen Marley, her marker, before chipping over Pauline Cope, the England goalkeeper.

England had dominated the opening exchanges. Smith created their first chance within 90 seconds. Kerry Davis prodded her cross towards goal, but Rosa Serra was well positioned to collect.

For all England's pressure, their attempts at goal were either from long range or too weak to trouble Serra. The former Arsenal goalkeeper was penalised for taking too many steps early in the second half but, from the resultant free kick, she kept out Sian Williams's fierce drive with a spectacular save.

Serra had been effective in nullifying England's raids until the 76th minute when Maria Harper, who had been on the pitch as a substitute for only one minute, looped a volley beyond the stranded goalkeeper. England then pressed forward in numbers but Serra had the last word in injury time when she tipped Gillian Coultard's half-volley over for a corner.

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Carling Premiership
Newcastle v Aston Villa (8.0)* .....

Vauxhall Conference
Hednesford v Rushden and D (7.45) ...
Kidderminster v Hayes (7.45) ..... P

FA CUP: Second qualifying round replays: Emley v Southport; Taunton Town v Yeovil.
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton v Hitchin (7.45).
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Hyde v Colwyn Bay.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: League Cup: Charlton v Millwall (2.0), Tottenham v Watford (at St Albans)
PONTINS LEAGUE: Premier division: Manchester Utd v Bolton (7.0). First division: Leicester v Middlesbrough (7.0).
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Taunton v Torrington
SCHOOLS MATCH: English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Bromley v Sutton (at Beckenham, 4.30).
OTHER MATCH: West Ham v Kuwait XI (at Chadwell Heath, 1.0)

OTHER SPORT

RACING: Bath (2.0); Hamilton Park (2.15)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Exeter v Hull (7.30). Conference League: Reading v Arena Essex (7.30).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Grimsby v Norwich (7.45); Ipswich v Barnsley (7.45); Oldham v West Bromwich (7.45); Portsmouth v Crystal Palace (7.45); Southend v Sheffield United (7.45); Tranmere v Oxford United (7.45). Second division: Bournemouth v Walsall (7.45); Bristol City v Brentford (7.45), Bury v Burnley (7.45); Chesterfield v Shrewsbury (7.45), Crewe v Blackpool; Gillingham v Notts County (7.45); Plymouth v Peterborough (7.45); Watford v Preston (7.45); Wrexham v Luton (7.45); Wycombe v Rotherham (7.45); York v Bristol Rovers (7.45). Third division: Barnet v Scarborough (7.45); Brighton v Lincoln (7.45); Cambridge United v Darlington (7.45); Cardiff v Rochdale (7.45); Carlisle v Colchester (7.45); Chester v Northampton (7.45); Doncaster v Hartlepool (7.45), Fulham v Torquay (7.45); Hereford v Scunthorpe (7.45), Hull v Mansfield, Leyton Orient v Swansea (7.45); Wigan v Exeter (7.45).
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Altrincham v Stalybridge (7.45); Dover v Bath (7.45); Kettering v Farnborough (7.45); Macclesfield v Halifax (7.45); Slough v Woking (7.45); Southport v Gateshead (7.45); Telford v Bromsgrove (7.45); Welling v Stevenage (7.45)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.0
ANGLO-WELSH CUP: Pool 1B: Llanelli v Bath
WELSH LEAGUE: Second division: Aberavon v Llandovery; Blackwood v Cardiff Inst; Maesteg v Bonymaen, Pontypool v Abertillery; South Wales Police v Cross Keys; Ystradgynlais v Abercynon

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: European Cup: London v PTT Ankara (Tur) (8.0).
BOXING: Commonwealth middleweight championship: Robert McCracken (Birmingham, holder) v Fitzgerald Bruney (Can) (in Birmingham).
RACING: Newmarket (1.55); Sedgefield (2.15).
ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Nottingham v Sheffield (7.30).
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham).

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Bradford v Swindon (7.45); Queens Park Rangers v Port Vale (7.45); Wolverhampton v Bolton (7.45). Second division: Millwall v Stockport (7.45)
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Morecambe v Northwich (7.45)
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP: Semi-final: Stranraer v Greenock Morton.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
ANGLO-WELSH CUP: Pool 1A: Wasps v Neath. Pool 2A: Gloucester v Dunvant. Pool 1B: Cardiff v Sale (7.0); Swansea v Harlequins (7.0). Pool 2B: Caerphilly v Saracens; Newport v Northampton (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

TOUR MATCH: Fiji XIII v Great Britain XIII (in Nadi)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Crystal Palace v Thames Valley (8.0)
BOXING: Commonwealth welterweight championship: Andrew Murray (Guyana, holder) v Michael Smyth (Barry) (at Welsh Institute of Sport, Cardiff).
EQUESTRIANISM: Horse of the Year Show (at Wembley).
RACING: Brighton (2.20); Exeter (2.15); Newcastle (2.0); Salisbury (2.10)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Cradley Heath and Stoke v Exeter (at Stoke, 7.45) Challenge: Hull v Scandinavian Vikings (7.30); Poole v Swindon (7.30)
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham).

THURSDAY

EQUESTRIANISM: Horse of the Year Show (at Wembley).
ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr v Newcastle
RACING: Market Rasen (2.10); Newmarket (1.30); Taunton (1.50).
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: London v Oxford (7.30). Conference League: Sheffield v Berwick (7.45)
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham)

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group seven: Wales v Holland (at Ninian Park, Cardiff).
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Tranmere v Portsmouth (7.45) Second division: * Bristol Rovers v Crewe. Third division: Swansea v Colchester

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League Sheffield v Hemel and Watford (7.30)
EQUESTRIANISM: Horse of the Year Show (at Wembley).
GOLF: Motor City Seniors' Classic (at The Warwickshire, Leek Wooton).
RACING: Hexham (2.15); Lingfield Park (1.50); Newmarket (2.0)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Oxford v Belle Vue (7.30), Peterborough v Poole (7.30) Conference League: Individual: Champions Chase (at Arena Essex, 8.0)
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
WORLD CUP: Qualifying group four: Latvia v Scotland (at Daugava Stadium, Riga, 2.0) Group seven: Wales v Holland (at Cardiff Arms Park, 7.0). Group nine: Northern Ireland v Armenia (at Windsor Park, Belfast).
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Bradford v Southend; Charlton v Barnsley; Grimsby v Queens Park Rangers; Ipswich v Swindon, Oldham v Port Vale, Oxford United v Bolton; Tranmere v Portsmouth; Wolverhampton v Reading. Postponed: Manchester City v West Bromwich Second division: Brentford v Rotherham, Bristol Rovers v Crewe; Burnley v Stockport; Bury v Blackpool; Chesterfield v Bristol City; Gillingham v Bournemouth; Luton v Walsall; Plymouth v Millwall, Preston v Peterborough; Wycombe v Notts County; York v Watford Third division: Barnet v Torquay; Cambridge United v Hartlepool; Carlisle v Mansfield; Chester v Cardiff; Darlington v Rochdale; Doncaster v Leyton Orient; Hereford v Scarborough; Hull v Scunthorpe; Lincoln v Exeter; Northampton v Fulham, Wigan v Brighton
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Bath v Altrincham; Bromsgrove v Gateshead; Halifax v Kidderminster; Hayes v Telford; Hednesford v Farnborough; Northwich v Dover, Rushden and Diamonds v Welling; Slough v Morecambe; Stalybridge v Kettering; Stevenage v Southport; Woking v Macclesfield.
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Airdrie v St Mirren; Dundee v Clydebank; East Fife v Falkirk; Greenock Morton v Partick; Stirling v St Johnstone. Second division: Brechin v Berwick; Dumbarton v Ayr; Livingston v Clyde, Stenhousemuir v Hamilton; Stranraer v Queen Of South. Third division: Albion v Montrose, East Stirling v Ross County; Forfar v Cowdenbeath, Caledonian Thistle v Arbroath; Queen's Park v Alloa.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Italy v Wales (in Rome, 2.15)
COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Harlequins v Orrell (2.15); London Irish v Bath, Northampton v Sale; Bristol v Saracens; West Hartlepool v Leicester. Second division: Bedford v Wakefield, Coventry v Nottingham; London Scottish v Blackheath; Moseley v Richmond; Newcastle v Rugby; Rotherham v Waterloo. Third division: Exeter v London Welsh, Harrogate v Leeds; Havant v Walsall, Liverpool St Helens v Fylde, Otley v Clifton; Reading v Morley; Rosslyn Park v Redruth; Wharfedale v Lydney Fourth division north: Birmingham/Solihull v Worcester; Hereford v Aspatria; Kendal v Stourbridge, Lichfield v Manchester; Preston Grasshoppers v Stoke-on-Trent; Sandal v Nuneaton; Winnington Park v Sheffield Fourth division south: Barking v High Wycombe; Berry Hill v Chariton Park; Cheltenham v Camberley; Henley v Plymouth; Met Police v Newbury; North Walsham v Tabard; Weston-super-Mare v Askeans.
WELSH LEAGUE: Second division: Aberavon v Ystradgynlais (2.30), Abertillery v Bonymaen (2.30), Cross Keys v Cardiff Inst (2.30), Maesteg v Blackwood (2.30); Pontypool v Llandovery (2.30), South Wales Police v Abercynon (2.30)
TENNENTS PREMIERSHIP: First division: Boroughmuir v Jed-Forest, Hawick v Cume; Heriots FP v Melrose, Stirling County v Watsonians. Second division: Edinburgh Acads v Dundee HSFP; Glasgow HK v Glasgow Acads; Gala v Biggar; Kelso v West of Scotland. Third division: Kilmarnock v Selkirk, Musselburgh v Preston Lodge; Peebles v Glasgow Southern; Stewart's Mel FP v Kirkcaldy Fourth division: Glenrothes v Gordonians; Haddington v Corstorphine, Hillhead/Jordanhill v Grangemouth; Langholm v Ayr
IRISH INTER-PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP: Connacht v Leinster (at Galway, 2.30), Munster v Ulster (at Limerick, 2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Fiji v Great Britain (at Nadi, 4.30am)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League Newcastle v Crystal (7.30), Birmingham v London (7.30), Hemel and Watford v Leicester (7.30); Thames Valley v Derby (8.0), Worthing v Manchester (8.0)
BOXING: World Boxing Organisation light-middleweight championship: Adnan Dodson (Islington holder) v Bahri Ahmed (Ger) (in Düsseldorf)
EQUESTRIANISM: Horse of the Year Show (at Wembley)
GOLF: Motor City Seniors' Classic (at The Warwickshire, Leek Wooton)
ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Quarter-final, second leg: Cardiff v Nottingham (5.40).
RACING: Chepstow (2.0), Haydock Park (1.40), Newmarket (2.0); Uttoxeter (2.30), Wolverhampton (7.0).
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Bradford v Eastbourne (7.30) Challenge: Swindon v Coventry (7.30). Conference League: Berwick v Sittingbourne (7.0).
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham)

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group four: Latvia v Scotland (at Daugava Stadium, Riga, 12.0)
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Crystal Palace v Sheffield United (1.0)

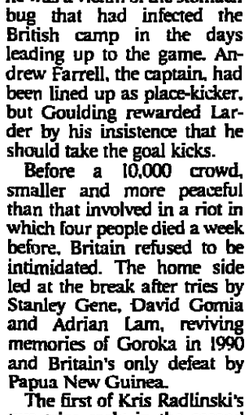
RUGBY UNION

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Gloucester v Wasps (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Bupa Great South Run (at Portsmouth)
BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v Newcastle (6.0), Leopards v Thames Valley (7.0)
EQUESTRIANISM: Horse of the Year Show (at Wembley)
GOLF: Motor City Seniors' Classic (at The Warwickshire, Leek Wooton)
ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup: Quarter-final, second leg: Ayr v Manchester (6.0), Newcastle v Sheffield (6.30); Bracknell v Basingstoke (6.0)
RACING: Haydock Park (2.0) Kelso (2.30), Kempton Park (2.10)
SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Eastbourne v Bradford (3.30) Scottish Monarchs v Oxford (6.30). Conference League: Buxton v Sheffield (3.0), Lmlithgow v Sittingbourne (2.30)
TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham)

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RACING

Fortune close to joining Ramsden

LYNDA RAMSDEN has confirmed that Jimmy Fortune is to take over from Kieren Fallon next year as No 1 jockey for her powerful 70-strong Breckenbrough House yard near Thirsk.

Speaking at Hamilton yesterday after she had watched her Fallon-ridden Bishops Court capture the opening race, Mrs Ramsden said: "We're still getting things sorted out with Jimmy because he is keen to retain his association with David Barron.

"I am sure we can work something out to everyone's advantage, but I can definitely say that Jimmy will be riding most of our horses in 1997. We're looking forward to welcoming him to our team."

Fortune, who had partnered Changed To Baileys into third behind easy winner Bishops Court before going on to land a 136-1 treble, is enjoying by far his best season with 79 winners, 15 of them for Mrs Ramsden's close neighbour, Barron.

Fortune, 24, said: "The new arrangement hasn't been finalised but the three of us are close to working things out."

RACING RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FOUR MEETINGS

Ascot

Going: good to firm, good in places

2.00 (1m 4f) 1, Wall Street (L Dettori, 2-1 fav); 2, Salmon Ladder (4-1); 3, Phalma (25-1). 7 ran. NR: Summer Spell. ¾l, 4l. S bin Suroor. Tote: £2.70; £1.70, £1.80. DF: £4.30. CSF: £9.44.

2.35 (6f) 1, Diffident (L Dettori, 12-1); 2, Lucayan Prince (15-8 fav), 3, Leap For Joy (14-1) 12 ran. NR: Watch Me. Sh hd, sh hd. S bin Suroor. Tote: £12.00; £3.00, £1.40. £4.30. DF: £20.20. Trio: £126.10. CSF: £33.09.

3.20 (1m) 1, Mark Of Esteem (L Dettori, 100-30: Richard Evans's nap), 2, Bosra Sham (100-30), 3, First Island (11-2) Ashkalani 9-4 fav. 7 ran. 1¼l, 4l. S bin Suroor. Tote: £3.70; £2.10, £2.50. DF: £8.10. CSF: £13.87.

3.55 (7f) 1, Decorated Hero (L Dettori, 7-1). 2, Kayvee (20-1), 3, Russian Music (16-1); 4, Ramooz (12-1) High Summer 5-2 fav. 26 ran. 3½l, ½l. J Gosden. Tote: £9.30; £3.00, £4.10, £2.50, £3.00. DF: £130.70. Tno: £817.30. CSF: £134.61. Tricast: £2,058.08.

4.30 (1m) 1, Fatefully (L Dettori, 7-4 fav); 2, Abeyr (25-1); 3, Prancing (33-1); 4, Quessome (8-1) 18 ran. NR: Trafalgar Lady. Nk, 1¼l. S bin Suroor. Tote: £3.00; £1.40, £5.40, £9.70. £2.00. DF: £98.60. Tno: £2,100.00. CSF: £46.80. Tricast: £1,144.01.

5.00 (6f) 1, Lochangel (L Dettori, 5-4 jt-fav); 2, Corsini (5-4 jt-fav); 3, Dust Dancer (11-1) 5 ran. ¾l, 5l. I Balding. Tote: £2.70; £1.50, £1.20. DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.10.

5.35 (2m 45yd) 1, Fujiyama Crest (L Dettori, 2-1 fav), 2, Northern Fleet (9-1), 3, Mrosowski (12-1); 4, Ivor's Flutter (10-1) 18 ran. Nk, 2l. M Stoute. Tote: £3.60; £1.90, £1.80, £3.50, £2.90. DF: £23.00. Tno: £517.50. CSF: £24.92. Tricast: £198.49.

Jackpot: £279.00.
Placepot: £51.70. Quadpot: £16.50.

Haydock Park

Going: good

2.05 (1m 6f) 1, Great Tern (R Prench, 10-1), 2, Teharqa (10-1) 3, Forever Noble (16-1); 4, Lepidina (5-1 fav). 19 ran. NR: Give And Take. 4l, 3l. N Babbage. Tote: £10.60, £2.10, £3.10, £4.30. £1.80. DF: £136.60. Trio: £338.40. CSF: £106.17. Tricast: £1,492.83.

2.40 (1m 30yd) 1, Myrtlebank (W Ryan, 8-15 fav); 2, Valencia (8-1); 3, Eponine (33-1). 10 ran. NR: Cool Grey. 1¼l, 7l. H Cecil. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £1.80, £4.70. DF: £5.70. Tno: £42.40. CSF: £6.64.

3.10 (1m 2f 120yd) 1, Namoodaj (D Hamson, 13-2) 2, Obelos (9-2); 3, Danegold (13-2). Secret Ally 4-1 fav. 9 ran. 1¾l, 2½l. A Stewart. Tote: £8.20, £2.40, £1.60, £1.80. DF: £30.00. Tno: £60.20. CSF: £33.38. Tricast: £180.80.

3.45 (7f 30yd) 1, River Usk (W Ryan, 8-11 fav); 2, Farhan (15-2), 3, Dokkah (15-2) 12 ran. NR: Spanish Knot. Nk, 1¼l. H Cecil. Tote: £1.80; £1.20, £2.00, £1.10. DF: £5.00. Trio: £9.70. CSF: £7.36.

4.20 (5f) 1, Lord High Admiral (M Roberts, 5-2 fav); 2, Gone Savage (11-2), 3, Royal Dome (16-1) 15 ran. NR: Eastern Prophets, Lago Di Varano, Shadow Jury. 1¼l, 1¼l. M Heaton-Ellis. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £1.80, £6.10. DF: £7.00. Trio: £66.10. CSF: £17.55. Tricast: £186.96.

4.55 (7f 30yd) 1, Nunsharpe (N Varley, 14-1); 2, Oberon's Dart (14-1); 3, Desert Lynx (20-1) Mezzanotte 5-2 fav. 15 ran. NR: Finistere. 3l, 1½l. J Fanshawe. Tote: £25.30, £5.30, £3.80, £5.80. DF: £149.50. CSF: £200.94. Tricast: £3,707.83.

Placepot: £248.90. Quadpot: £134.80.

Redcar

Going: firm, good to firm in places

2.25 (6f) 11, St Lucinda (D R McCabe, 9-4) 11, Thahabiyah (R Price, 5-4 fav); 3, Archello (7-2) 6 ran. Dd-ht, 1¼l. D Loder. H Thomson Jones. Tote: St Lucinda £1.10, Thahabiyah £1.20, St Lucinda £1.10, Thahabiyah £1.60. DF: £2.10. CSF: St Lucinda, Thahabiyah £2.88. Thahabiyah, St Lucinda £2.37.

2.55 (1m 2f) 1, Brambles Way (S Copp, 12-1), 2, Acquittal (9-2 fav), 3, Kevasingo (15-2) 15 ran. NR: Palacegate Jo, Tomal, Si, Tl. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £18.60, £4.10, £2.60, £3.10. DF: £77.30. Tno: £238.50. CSF: £56.39. Tricast: £311.00.

3.25 (7f) 1, Royal Jade (R Price, 11-4), 2, Hannalou (7-2), 3, Beano Script (14-1). La Malaar 10-11 fav. 9 ran. NR: Miss Walsh. 1¼l, 1l. B Hills. Tote: £4.20; £1.30, £1.10, £2.50. DF: £8.70. Tno: £48.20. CSF: £12.58.

3.55 (1m 6f 19yd) 1, Good Hand (J Fortune, 7-2); 2, Mighty Phantom (4-5 fav), 3 Highflying (100-30) 4 ran. Sh hd, ¾. S Kettlewell. Tote: £3.50. DF: £2.90. CSF: £6.75.

4.25 (1m 1f) 1, Windsor Castle (M Rimmer, 1-2 fav); 2, Zigzac (25-1); 3, Swiftway (16-1), 5 ran. NR: Liffre. 1¼l, 1l. P Cole. Tote: £1.70, £1.10, £2.10. DF: £4.40. CSF: £10.18.

4.55 (5f) 1, Kilcullen Lad (D R McCabe, 9-2), 2, Donna's Dancer (5-1); 3, Keen To Please (11-2). 3l, William's Well (33-1). Little Blue 9-4 fav. 11 ran. Sh hd, ¾l. P Mooney. Tote: £6.10; £3.00, £1.50, Keen To Please £1.40, William's Well £4.10. DF: £8.90. CSF: £28.47. Tricast: Kilcullen Lad, Donna's Dancer, Keen To Please £62.07, Kilcullen Lad, Donna's Dancer, William's Well £323.81.

5.25 (6f) 1, Barato (T Finn, 7-1); 2, French Grit (4-1 jt-fav); 3, Cavers Yangous (16-1). 4, Dissentor (10-1). Castleraa Lad 4-1 jt-fav. 17 ran. NR: Never Say So. ¾l, 2½l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £5.90; £1.40, £2.30, £2.70, £3.00. DF: £16.10. Trio: £56.50. CSF: £36.66. Tricast: £445.92.

Placepot: £80.40. Quadpot: £21.60.

Worcester

Going: good to firm

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, Come On Penny (M Dwyer, 11-4 fav); 2, Winter Rose (14-1), 3, Difficult Decision (3-1). 13 ran. 3½l, 1¾l. D Gandolfo. Tote: £2.90; £1.50, £2.60, £1.90. DF: £17.40. Tno: £18.30. CSF: £38.07.

3.00 (2m 7f ch) 1, Illaea (A Maguire, 10-1), 2, Have To Think (4-1); 3, Certain Angle (8-4 fav) 5 ran. NR: Who's To Say. 5l, ¼l. P Bowen. Tote: £8.40, £2.10, £1.90. DF: £17.90. CSF: £43.57.

3.35 (2m 7f ch) 1, Stormtracker (M Richards, 3-1); 2, Our Nikki (25-1), 3, Lucky Dollar (15-8 fav). 10 ran. 1l, 5l. C Weedon. Tote: £4.00, £1.60, £3.70, £1.20. DF: £47.00. Tno: £26.00. CSF: £60.06.

4.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Freddie Muck (C Llewellyn, 7-2), 2, Fieldridge (5-2 jt-fav); 3, Holy Joe (12-1) Wottashambles 5-2 jt-fav. 6 ran. NR: Lancer. 6l, 1½l. N T-Davies. Tote: £3.80, £2.10, £1.90. DF: £5.00. CSF: £12.29.

4.45 (2m ch) 1, Prince Skyboard (D Bridgwater, 6-1); 2, The Yokel (33-1); 3, Seashark Rathmore (6-1) Harrow Way 5-2 fav. 8 ran. NR: Bridepark Rose. 2½l, 2l. Mrs P Axon. Tote: £8.30, £1.70, £3.50, £1.40. DF: £45.30. Trio: £41.10. CSF: £87.96. Tricast: £677.21.

5.15 (2m hdle) 1, Ameze (Mr R Thornton, 2-1 fav), 2, Cooley's Valve (4-1), 3, Veola Lane (6-1) 9 ran. NR: Strong John. 1¾l, ¾l. Lady Herries. Tote: £2.60; £1.60, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £4.60. CSF: £10.26. Tricast: £37.34.

Placepot: £341.60. Quadpot: £15.00.

HAMILTON PARK SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: A Stewart, 7 winners from 9 runners, 77.8%; S Williams, 8 from 18, 44.4%; M Bell, 12 from 37, 32.4%; M Prescott, 11 from 38, 28.9%; J Watts, 3 from 12, 25.0%, M Stoute, 3 from 12, 25.0%; D Haydn Jones, 8 from 34, 23.5%.

JOCKEYS: S Whitworth, 6 winners from 16 rides, 37.5%; J Weaver, 41 from 154, 26.6%; K Darley, 51 from 241, 21.2%, G Duffield, 21 from 110, 19.1%, J Fortune, 20 from 111, 18.0%, J Carroll, 39 from 236, 16.5%.

HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER

2.15 Hindsight. 2.45 Cajun Sunset. 3.15 Metalasanythin. 3.45 MANFUL (nap). 4.15 Montendre. 4.45 Sunday Mail Too.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.15 Ayunli.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES SIS
DRAW: 6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 EBF BOTHWELL BRIDGE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,836: 1m 65yd) (6 runners)

1	(3)	0	CORAL ISLAND 30 J Fitzgerald 9-0	K Darley	–
2	(4)	22	HINDSIGHT 57 (BF) W Haggas 9-0 ..	K Fallon	80
3	(1)	5	LIGHTNING REBEL 35 C Thornton 9-0	D McKeown	72
4	(6)	4	MANLEMO 9 (B) J Hetherton 9-0 ..	N Kennedy	–
5	(5)	0	MOORBIRD 12 M Johnston 9-0 ..	J Weaver	83
6	(2)	60	BLOWN-OVER 40 A Stewart 8-9 ..	S Whitworth	83

4-9 Hindsight, 5-1 Blown-Over, 6-1 Moorbird, 14-1 Lightning Rebel, 16-1 Coral Island, 33-1 Manlemo.

2.45 LORD HAMILTON OF DALZELL NURSERY HANDICAP (£3,377: 2-Y-O: 1m 65yd) (7)

1	(4)	4540	LEVITICUS 26 (BF) T Tate 9-7 ..	D McKeown	98
2	(3)	4306	HURGILL TIMES 24 J Watts 9-1 ..	G Duffield	86
3	(2)	6403	LORD DISCORD 9 T Easterby 8-13 ..	M Birch	96
4	(1)	0032	JUICY TING 9 (BF) P Haslam 8-13 ..	J Fortune	96
5	(7)	3534	CAJUN SUNSET 20 (BF) T Easterby 8-3 ..	K Darley	98
6	(6)	0600	PRESENTIMENT 12 J Berry 8-3 ..	J Fanning	93
7	(5)	6000	CHANSON D'AMOUR 7 (V) Miss L Perratt 8-1	P Fessey (5)	96

9-4 Levitacus, 7-2 Juicy Ting, 4-1 Hurgill Times, 5-1 Lord Discord, 6-1 Cajun Sunset, 10-1 Presentiment, 20-1 Chanson D'Amour.

3.15 BILL McHARG MEMORIAL HANDICAP (£3,486: 1m 4f 17yd) (14)

1	(6)	2140	BREAK THE RULES 23 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-0	K Darley	89
2	(10)	0502	SOBA UP 7 (D,F,S) T Ellerington 4-10-0 ..	M Birch	94
3	(12)	1211	AYUNLI 3 (CD,F,G) S Williams 5-9-13 (Sex) ..	J Tate	89
4	(5)	1404	MENTALASANYTHIN 9 (CD,G,S) D Haydn Jones 7-9-12 ..	J Weaver	96
5	(13)	1505	MONUMENT 18 (F) J King 4-9-11 ..	D Griffiths (5)	98
6	(2)	1055	EAU DE COLOGNE 30 (CD,S) C Thornton 4-9-9	D McKeown	87
7	(7)	1113	PHARLY DANCER 55 (D,G,S) W Haigh 7-9-5	L Newton (5)	96
8	(11)	1230	ASTRAL WEEKS 147 (F,S) L Lungo 5-9-4 ..	K Fallon	87
9	(1)	254	GIFTBOX 45 (C,G,S) M Prescott 4-9-1 ..	G Duffield	92
10	(14)	0000

Julian Muscat celebrates a unique achievement on the British Turf

Dettori leaps beyond boundaries

For two centuries jockeys were little more than the Turf's children. They were seen but not heard; they responded only when addressed. So much so that Lester Piggott's early daring provoked a deep hostility, particularly from the Ascot stewards, who banned him for a year after the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes in 1954.

Frankie Dettori has broken those shackles. His unique feat in riding all seven winners at Ascot on Saturday was no accident of circumstance. Accumulative odds of 25,095-1 testify to the outrageous, yet Dettori's natural talent was always destined to crunch numbers in a statistically orientated sport. The sublime is defined by such achievement, and Dettori, peerless in his affinity with horses, was born to trample records.

Some maintain that Piggott's achievements stand alone; will remain so for time immemorial. Now is not the time to dispute the argument. However, what makes Dettori's coming so heartwarming is his desire to disperse the thrill. In the moment of triumph, Piggott's deadpan expression evoked more curiosity than attraction. Dettori's spontaneous celebrations sweep the public to the crest of a joyous wave. From stable lad to assembled royalty, everyone celebrates with him.

> 'He sweeps the public to the crest of a joyous wave'

The bookmakers will assert that he has taken some of the chance out of racing. As the Dettori show unfurled, the public embraced the possibilities and shovelled cash on his mounts. Perhaps the most telling moment came when the BBC *Grandstand* programme interrupted the classified football results to bring live pictures of Dettori's sixth ride. For once, millions of pools punters played second fiddle to those with equine investments.

Dettori's exuberance may be fuelled by the emotional poverty of his youth. From a broken home, Dettori, born 25 years ago on the Mediterranean island of Sardinia, spent part of his youth in the care of a Catholic nun while his father, Gianfranco, pursued his own riding career in Italy. It was an existence rich in wisdom but lacking the excitement youngsters crave.

On his arrival in Newmarket ten years ago, Dettori was all but adopted by Luca Cumani, a long-standing family friend who indoctrinated Dettori to life's hazards. Dettori's equanimity in victory and defeat was learned within the walls of Cumani's Bedford House stables. Three years ago, on the occasion he strayed by accepting a Hong Kong post without consulting his mentor, Cumani did the young jockey by far his biggest service. He turned him away, and did not speak to him for more than a year.

The stint in Hong Kong never materialised after Dettori attracted the interest of the Metropolitan Police after a night in London. He was keeping the wrong company; in grave danger of trashing his talent. Without Cumani's support, he spent a season riding freelance, when Ian Balding largely assumed the fatherly role so prevalent in Dettori's life.

Then came the offer to ride for John Gosden, the favoured trainer of Sheikh Mohammed. Gosden has been equally influential in Dettori's unfolding career, springing to his defence, protecting him from situations which youth is ill-equipped to handle. "It's fair to say that his career was at a crossroads when he came to me," Gosden reflected, "and he had to make a number of choices. He'd had two or three problems, after which it was up to him to follow the example of Lester Piggott or fade into oblivion."

"It was hard for him when he fell out with Luca but he came back, shaved his head and ground out a winter on the all-weather," Gosden continued. "When I saw him do that, I knew he had turned the corner. It also helps that Frankie is prepared to sit down and discuss things. He is fun and games on the racecourse but tough and resilient underneath. But it's a question of controlling the spark. If he didn't have that, he would have been ordinary and boring."

Interestingly, Gosden emphasised his relationship with Dettori works both ways. The trainer, who has himself endured a period of turbulence this season, said: "There have been times this year when I have wondered whether it was worth carrying on. I have been hurt once or twice but Frankie helped me out; helped me to look forward."

Earlier this month, Gosden breached a significant dam, landing his first British classic winner when Shantou took the St Leger. Dettori has savoured many such moments, yet his emotions took over, the bond between them emphasised when he lifted the towering Gosden clean off his feet in the midst of a television interview.

Evidence of Dettori's exuberance is everywhere. He has trademarked a flying dismount from the saddle of major winners, although sadly, there remain a handful of objectors who cannot grasp its significance. Through the medium of televison, Dettori is flyjumping from racing's narrow boundaries into millions of living rooms. The sport's profile has never been higher. Dettori is the formula horse racing has always sought but not, until now, found.

To see the majority among 20,000 racegoers flock for a sight of Dettori returning triumphant from his final ride on Saturday was to understand the impact Dettori has generated. Even bookmakers saw some proverbial silver within the clouds. "We estimate the industry lost £15 million on Saturday," said Ladbrokes's PR director, Mike Dillon. "It is disastrous in the short term but we believe it was a wonderful day for racing. In the longer term it should open people's eyes to the excitement of betting."

So Dettori's spree enters legend alongside the 12 consecutive winners — gained over three days — by Gordon Richards in 1933. It stands as a monument to a talent so outstanding that it knows no boundaries. In ten years, Dettori has metamorphosised from a weedy teenager who could speak no English to the man who has people hanging on his every word. On Saturday, Dettori ensured that the message spread way beyond racing's regular audience.

Bookmakers lose, page 1
Leader, page 21

MARK LEECH



Dettori marks riding all seven winners at Ascot on Saturday with a flying dismount from Fujiyama Crest

FRANKIE DETTORI FACTFILE

Born: December 15, 1970. Father, Gianfranco, 13 times champion jockey in Italy, won 2,000 Guineas on Bolkonski and Wollow.

Height: 5ft 2in. Riding weight: 8st 4lb.

Apprenticeship: Served with Luca Cumani in Newmarket.

First winner: Billy Pitt at Turin on November 9, 1986.

First winner in Britain: Lizzy Hare at Goodwood on June 9, 1987.

Champion apprentice: 1989 (75 winners).

Champion jockey: 1994, 1995

First century of winners: 1990 (first teenager to ride 100 winners in a season since Lester Piggott).

Best total: 233 in 1994.

Seasonal totals (from 1987) 6, 22, 75, 141, 94, 101, 149, 233, 217, 98 (to date).

British Classic winners: Balanchine (Oaks 1994), Moonshell (Oaks 1995), Classic Cliche (St Leger 1995), Mark Of Esteem (2,000 Guineas 1996), Shantou (St Leger 1996). French Derby winner: Polytain 1992. Irish Derby winner: Balanchine 1994. King George VI And Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes winner: Lammtarra 1995. Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner: Lammtarra 1995.

Other big race winners: Barathea (Breeders' Cup Mile 1994), Drum Taps (Gold Cup 1992 and 93), Emperor Jones (Lockinge Stakes 1994), Halling (Juddmonte International 1996), Inchinor (Hungerford Stakes 1993), Lochsong (Nunthorpe Stakes 1993, Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp 1993 and 94), Markofdistinction (Queen Elizabeth II Stakes 1990), Only Royale (Yorkshire Oaks 1993, Jockey Club Stakes 1995), Second Set (Sussex Stakes 1991), Swain (Coronation Cup 1996), Vettori (Poule d'Essai des Poulains 1995)

Reams Of Verse profits from Eddery's trials

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

DETTORI YESTERDAY

2.00 Sunbeam Dance 4th (7-2).
2.35 Medaaly 5th (3-1).
3.10 Hal's Pal 2nd (6-1 fav).
3.50 Logic 5th (50-1).
4.25 Daunt unplaced (9-1).
5.00 Duel At Dawn 4th (20-1).
5.35 Altamura WON (13-2).

A CONTEST from which shafts of light were expected yielded only confusion when Reams Of Verse upset her better-fancied stablemate, Sleepytime, to land the group one Fillies' Mile at Ascot yesterday.

For Pat Eddery, who rode Sleepytime in preference to the winner, the contest encapsulated a frustrating meeting as he probed in vain for racing room in the final furlong. Sleepytime had plenty left to offer, but Michael Kinane, who gave Reams Of Verse a text-book ride, determined that the favourite's supporters went home ashen-faced.

Eddery insisted: "I would definitely have won with a clear run. She was squeezed out and when we got free it was too late." In a contest with serious overtones for next year's 1,000 Guineas, bookmakers differed in their views. William Hill shortened Sleepytime to 9-2 from 11-2, Coral maintained its pre-race quote of 5-1 but Ladbrokes elevated Reams Of Verse (5-1) above Sleepytime, now a 6-1 chance.

RICHARD EVANS'

Nap: SABINA
(2.00 Bath)
Next best: Slip The Net
(3.00 Bath)

Richard Evans completed an 8-1 double with his nap, Mark Of Esteem, and River Usk on Saturday, and napped Reams Of Verse (5-1) at Ascot yesterday. He also selected Wall Street (2-1) and Decorated Hero (7-1) in his guide to Saturday's televised races.

Even Henry Cecil, who trains these two high-class performers, declined to split them. "The whole of their work at home is based around them drawing up and quickening, which suits Sleepytime as she has a turn of foot," he said. "At a strong racing pace it would suit Reams Of Verse, who has more experience. Sleepytime is a big filly who had only won a maiden. With the winter over, you'd like to think she'd be a live Guineas filly."

For all Sleepytime's tribulations, Reams Of Verse prevailed by 1¼ lengths from Khassah, herself brimful of promise, with Sleepytime another neck behind. It was a verdict to which Reams Of Verse was entitled after her May Hill triumph two weeks earlier. Red Camellia finished within a whisker of Sleepytime in fourth, and her straying from a straight course initiated Eddery's problems. Connections ventured that Red Camellia may not have seen out the mile.

John Gosden, who trains Khassah, will almost certainly see his filly taken to Dubai for the winter before her return in the spring. However, Gosden will have Benny The Dip on campus. The colt, who fended off Desert Story at Doncaster last time, had that rival to beat in the closing stages to the GTECH Royal Lodge Stakes. He responded manfully, forging ahead in the closing stages after a memorable tussle.

Gosden enthused of Benny The Dip: "He took the lead, idled in front, got headed, then got brave. He can only improve, although I'll be surprised if he stays 12 furlongs next year." Named after a character from a Damon Runyon novel, Benny The Dip is 20-1 for the 2,000 Guineas.

The third place taken by Besiege initiated Cecil's rally after Godolphin's trainer, Saeed bin Suroor, streaked clear in the trainers' championship with four winners on Saturday. The Warren Place handler is now all but back on terms in advance of the big Newmarket meeting, which starts tomorrow.

Those who ventured to Ascot to support Frankie Dettori's mounts were detained until the seventh and final race before drawing a dividend. Dettori closed the meeting on a high note when conjuring a storming run from Altamura in the Harvest Stakes. "The lucky last," he exclaimed as he scampered to weigh in for the last time on a weekend he will never forget.

Before the meeting, Dettori would surely have settled for the scintillating victory of Mark Of Esteem in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes on Saturday. The 2,000 Guineas winner turned in an exceptional performance to outrun Bosra Sham, herself winner of the 1,000 Guineas, with First Island four lengths third.

Dominic Gardiner-Hill, the official handicapper, provisionally assessed Mark Of Esteem's performance as the best on a European racecourse for four years. "It was the best by any horse over any distance since St Jovite won the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes," Gardiner-Hill said.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Ascot

Going: good

2.00 (7f) 1, KAHAL (R Hills, 9-2); 2, Ricky Ticky Tavie (W R Swinburn, 11-4 fav); 3, Furnish (Pat Eddery, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Sunbeam Dance (4th), 20 Mandilak, Purchasing Power, Shahboor, 25 Truly Parched (6th), 50 Cybertechnology, Ursa Major (5th), 66 E-Mail. 11 ran. 3½l, 3l, 1¼l, 2½l, 2½l. E Dunlop at Newmarket. Tote £5.30: £2.60, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £12.10. Trio: £12.30. CSF: £15.33.

2.35 (1m) 1, BENNY THE DIP (W R Swinburn, 9-4 fav); 2, Desert Story (M J Kinane, 10-1); 3, Besiege (Pat Eddery, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Medaaly (5th), 9 Equal Rights (4th), 20 Ar Express (6th), 25 Reconcile, State Fair. 8 ran. ¾l, 1¼l, nk, 1½l, nk. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £3.10, £1.10, £2.00, £1.50. DF: £14.40. CSF: £21.86.

3.10 (1m) 1, AMRAK AJEEB (M Rimmer, 33-1); 2, Hal's Pal (L Dettori, 6-1 fav); 3, Zajlio (F Lynch, 20-1); 4, Autumn Cover (D Biggs, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Mo-Addab, 10 Pride Of Pendle, 12 Sky Dome, 14 Jerry Cutrona, Sue's Return, 16 Admirals Flame, Serendippy, 20 Master Beveled, Mill Prince, Champagne Grandy, Daryabad, Erlton, Moscow Mist, Present Situation, Rebel County (5th), Seventeens Lucky, Talathath (6th), 33 Broughtons Turmoil, Controntier, Embankment, Sandmoor Chambray. 25 ran. NR: Ron's Secret. 1¼l, 3l, sh hd, 2l, ¾l. B Hanbury at Newmarket. Tote: £34.20: £8.50, £2.00, £6.60, £6.40. DF: £84.60. Trio: £1,335.10. CSF: £203.69. Tricast: £3,761.72.

3.50 (1m) 1, REAMS OF VERSE (M J Kinane, 5-1; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Khassah (R Hills, 10-1); 3, Sleepytime (Pat Eddery, 6-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 2 Red Camellia (4th), 20 Greasel, 25 Ovation, 50 Logic (5th), 100 Mrs Minniver (6th). 8 ran. 1¼l, nk, sh hd, 3½l, 1¼l. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £6.80; £1.70, £1.90, £1.20. DF: £11.80. CSF: £45.12.

4.25 (1m 4f) 1, BETTER OFFER (M J Kinane, 9-1); 2, Sheer Danzig (M Hills, 16-1); 3, Dacha (Pat Eddery, 7-1); 4, Dance So Suite (T Quinn, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 5-1 fav Arabian Story, 9 Beauchamp Jade (6th), Daunt, 12 Whitechapel, Zaralaska, 14 Romrea, 20 Lakeline Legend, Polydamas, 25 Time For Action, Wille Conquer (5th), 33 Al Liberty, Remaadi Sun, Son Of Sharp Shot, 40 Korambis, My Learned Friend, 50 Leonardo. 20 ran. 1¼l, 1l, ¾l, ¾l, 1l. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote: £8.10; £1.80, £4.40, £2.20, £5.40. DF: £73.80. Trio: £327.00. CSF: £130.77. Tricast: £988.25.

5.00 (5f) 1, BOLSHOI (Emma O'Gorman, 11-1); 2, Samraar (R Cochrane, 11-4 fav); 3, Croft Pool (G Carter, 12-1). 4, Duel At Dawn (L Dettori, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Crowded Avenue, 17-2 Amazing Bay, 12 That Man Again, 14 Bold Effort, Speed On, To The Roof, 20 Astrac (6th), Double Cluck, Loch Patrick, Takadou, 25 Midnight Escape, Sea Dane (5th), 33 Bowden Rose. 17 ran. 1½l, 2l, ¾l, sh hd, 1½l. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £14.00; £2.90, £1.70, £3.00, £2.80. DF: £23.00. Trio: £142.10. CSF: £40.89. Tricast: £374.56.

5.35 (1m 4f) 1, ALTAMURA (L Dettori, 13-2); 2, Time Allowed (J Reid, 6-4 fav); 3, Russian Snows (M J Kinane, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Place De L'Opera, 10 Belalaika (5th), 11 Honest Guest, 20 Ellie Ardensky, Inchyre (4th), 25 Alessandra (6th), 33 Ta Awun. 10 ran. 2l, 2½l, hd, nk, 8l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £6.70; £2.10, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £8.50. CSF: £16.02. Trio: £7.10. Jackpot: not won (pool of £5,586.87 carried forward to Bath today). Placepot: £144.50. Quadpot: £53.10.

Hamilton Park

Going: good, good to soft in places

2.15 (5f 4yd) 1, Bishops Court (K Fallon, 10-11 fav); 2, Hurgill Lady (5-1); 3, Changed To Baileys (13-2). 6 ran. NR: Morning Star. 1½l, 2½l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £1.50; £1.30, £1.60. DF: £3.90. CSF: £5.66.

2.50 (6f 5yd) 1, Yorkie George (J Fortune, 9-2); 2, Fairy Ring (33-1); 3, Trailblazer (7-4 fav). 8 ran. NR: Princess Zera. 1¼l, 1¼l. L Cumani. Tote: £5.10; £1.70, £5.20, £1.70. DF: £72.00. Trio: £147.40 (part won; pool of £20,77 carried forward to 4.45 at Hamilton Park today). CSF: £91.40.

3.25 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, Consordino (J Fortune, 9-2); 2, Flying North (10-1); 3, King Cuan (5-1). Celebration Cake 4-1 fav. 8 ran. 1¼l, 2l. L Cumani. Tote: £5.80; £1.50, £2.60, £2.10. DF: £12.40. CSF: £40.91. Tricast: £201.22.

4.00 (1m 65yd) 1, Further Outlook (K Fallon, 100-30 fav); 2, Wingspan (8-1); 3, Northern Optimist (12-1). Herbert Buchanan 11-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Millies Own. 9l, 10l. R Frost. Tote: £4.20; £1.60, £2.40, £2.50. DF: £21.60. Trio: £47.80. CSF: £30.76. Tricast: £285.78.

5.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Streallmar (T J Murphy, 7-4 fav); 2, Zingibar (9-1); 3, Comin Hill (3-1). 6 ran. NR: Minster's Madam. 1l, 4l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £3.30. DF: £13.00. CSF: £16.15.
Placepot: £175.40. Quadpot: £106.20.

Newton Abbot

Going: good to firm

2.30 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Imperial Vintage (N Williamson, 7-2); 2, Lansdowne (11-8 fav); 3, He's A King (6-1). 6 ran. 13l, 8l. Miss V Williams. Tote: £4.20; £1.80, £1.80. DF: £3.40. CSF: £8.59.

3.05 (3m 3f hdle) 1, Better Blythe Glass (D Walsh, 13-8 fav); 2, Gunmaker (10-1); 3, Dragonmist (10-1). 10 ran. NR: Hizal, Snowy Lane. 2½l, 8l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £3.00, £3.70. DF: £19.00. Trio: £153.20. CSF: £17.93. Tricast: £119.52.

3.35 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Rainbow Castle (P Hide, 2-1 fav); 2, Gilston Lass (5-2); 3, Manor Bound (16-1). 8 ran. NR: Top Mariner. 3l, dist. P Nicholls. Tote: £2.90; £1.40, £1.50, £3.80. DF: £3.40. Trio: £42.90. CSF: £8.08. Tricast: £60.94.

4.10 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Hand Woven (C Llewellyn, 10-11 fav); 2, Kasanta (16-1); 3, Gamynst, (6-1). 10 ran. 3½l, 2l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £2.50. £1.50. DF: £20.50. Trio: £22.50. CSF: £16.64.

4.45 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Bit Of A Touch (J Frost, 7-2); 2, Wingspan (8-1); 3, Northern Optimist (12-1). Herbert Buchanan 11-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Millies Own. 9l, 10l. R Frost. Tote: £4.20; £1.60, £2.40, £2.50. DF: £21.60. Trio: £47.80. CSF: £30.76. Tricast: £285.78.

5.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Streallmar (T J Murphy, 7-4 fav); 2, Zingibar (9-1); 3, Comin Hill (3-1). 6 ran. NR: Minster's Madam. 1l, 4l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £3.30. DF: £13.00. CSF: £16.15.
Placepot: £175.40. Quadpot: £106.20.

BATH

THUNDERER

2.00 Aim Seven — 3.30 Kutman
2.30 Blaze Away — 4.00 Jarah
3.00 Slip The Net — 4.30 Secret Pleasure

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.30 MU-TADIL.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 KUTMAN (nap). 4.00 Nijo.

GOING: GOOD — DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST — SIS
TOTE JACKPOT METTING

2.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND TORMARTON MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,738: 5f 161yd) (14 runners)

101	(5)	0254		AIM SEVEN 39 (Sheikh Essa Bin Mubarak) R Hannon 9-0		Dane O'Neill	88
102	(4)	0		ALPINE MUSIC 18 (J Kearney) J Bradley 9-0		C Rutter	–
103	(3)	44		DARING FLIGHT 25 (H De Rwistotowski) Lord Huntingdon 9-0		D Harrison	(3)
104	(7)	6		DOMINANT AIR 12 (W Greig) M Prescott 9-0		S Sanders	–
105	(13)	34		JUST NICK 112 (BF) (D Clarke) W Muir 9-0		J Reid	79
106	(8)	5		TIGRELLO 108 (A Al-Midani) B Lewis 9-0		Pat Eddery	75
107	(11)			ZA-IM (H Al Maktoum) B Hills 9-0		R Hills	–
108	(2)			KEEPSAKE (T Barker) M Usher 8-9		R Street	–
109	(6)	5		MA VIELLE POUQUE 21 (The Jersey Syndicate) W Turner 8-9		A Clark	85
110	(14)	00		PERCHANCE TO DREAM 45 (Mrs S Joist) B Millman 8-9		B Doyle	71
111	(12)	3		SABINA 9 (The Queen) J Balding 8-9		L Dettori	95
112	(10)			SWEET BETTSIE (Jadecliff Ltd) A Foster 8-8		C Adamson (5)	–
113	(9)	0		TAYOVULLIN 21 (Miss M Morrison) R Charlton 8-9		T Sprake	–
114	(1)	06		WEE DRAM 13 (Mrs D Sieff) R Hannon 8-9		R Perham	77

BETTING: 9-4 Sabina, 7-2 Darling Flight, 6-1 Za-Im, 7-1 Dominant Air, 8-1 Tigrello, 10-1 Tayovullin, Aim Seven, 12-1 others.

1995: CELANDINE 8-9 T Quinn (2-1 fav) R Charlton 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

AIM SEVEN 1¼l 2nd of 5 to Song Mist in maiden at Brighton (6f, firm). DARING FLIGHT 3l 4th of 16 to Tycoon Todd in maiden at York (6f, good). DOMINANT AIR 9¼l 6th of 15 to Jazzi in maiden at Beverley (5f, good to firm). JUST NICK 3¼l 4th of 8 to Bold Catch in maiden at Nottingham (5f, good to firm). TIGRELLO 8l 5th of 9 to Blue Ridge in maiden at Sandown (5f, good to firm). ZA-IM (fooled May 3). By Green Desert, half-brother to very useful miler Hasbah; dam top-class miler. MA VIELLE POUQUE 4l 5th of 12 to Loving And Giving in maiden auction here (5f, good to firm) with TAYOVULLIN (4th better off) 5l 9th. SABINA 7¾l 3rd of 24 to Speedball in maiden at Newbury (6f, good to firm).
Selection: SABINA

2.30 WEATHERBYS DATA SERVICES CHUCKLESTONE HANDICAP
(£3,758: 2m 1f 34yd) (12 runners)

201	(5)	610524		FARRINGDON HILL 17 (BJF) (J Wallis) W Hern 5-10-0		R Hills	90
202	(10)	6-30845		BLAZE AWAY 18 (F,6) (P Mellon) I Balding 5-9-12		Pat Eddery	95
203	(7)	042120		BOLD CLASSIC 35 (V,F) (Mrs H Focke) J Dunlop 3-9-4		T Quinn	86
204	(6)	521030		NUZU 26 (B,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) B Hills 3-9-3		M Hills	86
205	(11)	01040-0		INCHCALLOCH 16 (CD,F,G,S) (F Carle) J King 7-8-13		A Clark	89
206	(8)	008-115		BELLARA 35 (F,G,S) (G Leigh) N Babbage 4-8-11		L Dettori	90
207	(12)	052335		SEA FREEDOM 31 (V) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 5-8-11		J Reid	98
208	(4)	2000-00		TEEN JAY 14 (S) (Gemini Associates) B Llewellyn 6-8-1		Declan O'Shea	88
209	(3)	04-0040		JELALI 21 (The Fort Partnership) D Murray Smith 3-8-0		T Sprake	88
210	(1)	50-5		MU-TADIL 21 (Mrs V Jones) R Baker 4-7-10		F Norton	(5)
211	(2)	/0-0		GREAT SIMPLICITY 10 (B,F) (M Appleby) R Curtis 9-7-10		G Bardwell	–
212	(9)	404405		ROCQUAINE BAY 11 (F,S) (D Woolard) M Bolton 9-7-10		J Quinn	87

Long handicap: Great Simplicity 7-7, Rocquaine Bay 6-12.

BETTING: 7-2 Blaze Away, 4-1 Bold Classic, 5-1 Sea Freedom, 6-1 Farringdon Hill, 7-1 Bellara, 8-1 Nuzu, 10-1 Inchcalloch, 12-1 others.

1995: GREYCOAT BOY 3-7-11 J Egan (20-1) B Meehan 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

FARRINGDON HILL 1¼l 2nd of 5 to Chatam Island in handicap at Yarmouth (1m 6f, good to firm) BLAZE AWAY 3¼l 5th of 13 to Great Easeby in handicap at Goodwood (2m, good to firm) with INCHCALLOCH (1lb worse off) tailed off 12th. BOLD CLASSIC neck 2nd of 4 to Cheekbestone in handicap over course and distance (good). NUZU 2½l 3rd of 5 to Willie Conquer in rating related stakes at Newbury (1m 4f, good). BELLARA beat Lafleji 1l in 9-runner handicap at Salisbury (1m 6f, good) with SEA FREEDOM (5lb better off) 15¼l 6th.
SEA FREEDOM 1l 2nd of 14 to French Joy in handicap at Goodwood (2m, good) with TEEN JAY (7lb better off) tailed off 12th. ROCQUAINE BAY 4l 4th of 6 to Rising Spray in handicap at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm)
Selection: BOLD CLASSIC

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 — B West (4) — 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J If jumps. F & Rt. (R — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.00 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND DODINGTON MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,397: 1m 2f 46yd) (6 runners)

301	(4)		808	DRIVE ASSURED 12 (P Haid) C Britain 9-0		B Doyle	91
302	(1)			ELDORADO (R Huggins) M Johnston 9-0		J Reid	–
303	(3)		4	SLIP THE NET 10 (J Gaskin) P Cole 9-0		T Quinn	(5)
304	(5)		0	SOUTHERN CHIEF 9 (B Brown) W & M Turner 9-0		R Perham	–
305	(5)			WESLEY'S LAD (J Williams Transport Ltd) J Hewitt 9-0		A Clark	–
306	(2)		0	BONNIE VILLE 24 (Millbrook Associates) B Patling 8-9		T Sprake	–

BETTING: 10-11 Slip The Net, 3-1 Drive Assured, 7-2 Eldorado, 14-1 Bonnie Ville, 16-1 Wesley's Lad, 25-1 Southern Chief.

1995: GENTILHOMME 9-0 T Quinn (4-5 fav) P Cole 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

DRIVE ASSURED 7¼l 6th of 15 to Sleepytime in maiden at Sandown (7f, good to firm). ELDORADO (foaled May 16, cost 10,000gns) By Ela-Mana-Mou, half-brother to middle-distance winner Fleeting Vision; dam, half-sister to Snurge, unraced.
SLIP THE NET 4l 4th of 9 to King Sound in conditions race at Newbury (1m, good to firm). SOUTHERN CHIEF tailed-off 11th of 12 to Mystic Quest in maiden at Wolverhampton (1m 100yd, AW).
BONNIE VILLE 24l 13th of 14 to Patio Sky in maiden auction at Haydock (1m, good).
Selection: SLIP THE NET

3.30 EUROPEAN FRICTION INDUSTRIES ANNIVERSARY MAIDEN STAKES (£3,758: 1m 2f 46yd) (11 runners)

401	(2)		0	HADDIT 21 (P Bowditch) A Newcombe 3-8-12		S Drowne	–
402	(8)		3	KING KATO 20 (Mrs J Ellis) G Harwood 3-8-12		J Reid	90
403	(10)		02	KUTMAN 6 (Mons Al Maktoum) M Stoute 3-8-12		W Ryan	90
404	(9)		82	MUTAWASSIB 20 (H Al Maktoum) A Stewart 3-8-12		R Hills	91
405	(7)		03-5203	PASTERNAK 16 (BF) (G Rock) M Prescott 3-8-12		S Sanders	98
406	(11)		550	RETICENT 25 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-8-12		L Dettori	91
407	(3)		54	FLAMANDA 20 (The Duysoring Co Ltd) C Brittain 3-8-7		B Doyle	82
408	(4)		050000	KOWTOW 9 (T Barker) M Usher 3-8-7		R Street	76
409	(6)		62-23	LADY JOSHUA 51 (BF) (Mrs A Dobbin) J Dunlop 3-8-7		T Quinn	(5)
410	(5)		4	MEDFEE 10 (BF) (K Abdulla) R Charlton 3-8-7		Pat Eddery	98
411	(1)		0-	WAR SHANTY 331 (Horris Vale Racing Plans) Lady Herries 3-8-7		A Clark	–

BETTING: 3-1 Medfee, 4-1 Pasternak, 9-2 Kutman, 6-1 King Kato, Lady Joshua, 8-1 Mutawassib, 10-1 Reticent, 12-1 others.

1995: PRICKWILLOW 3-8-7 L Dettori (2-7 fav) J Gosden 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

KUTMAN 1¾l 2nd of 15 to Dawawin in maiden at Nottingham (1m, good to soft). MUTAWASSIB 1l 2nd of 8 to Polar Champ in maiden at Leicester (1m 2f, good to firm) with KING KATO short-head 3rd and FLAMANDA 4l 4th.
PASTERNAK two heads 3rd of 12 to Rahesla in maiden at Goodwood (1m 2f, good to firm) RETICENT 6¼l 5th of 15 to Filial in maiden at Sandown (1m 2f, good to firm) with LADY JOSHUA neck and 4l 3rd of 8 to Fine Detail in maiden at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm).
MEDFEE 2¼l 4th of 12 to Threadneedle in maiden at Newbury (1m, good to firm).
Selection: LADY JOSHUA (nap)

4.00 MORRIS DANCER CONDITIONS STAKES
(£4,851: 1m 5yd) (5 runners)

501	(6)	315022		ALI-ROYAL 17 (BF,6,S) (Greenbay Stables Ltd) H Cecil 3-9-4		Pat Eddery	(5)
502	(1)	300140		MARALINGA 16 (F,6) (D & Mrs J Oliver) Lady Herries 4-8-4		Declan O'Shea	92
503	(3)	13-5103		JARAH 16 (D,F) (H Al Maktoum) S bin Suroor 3-9-0		R Hills	95
504	(5)	2522-00		NIJO 18 (V,D,6,S) (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) D Loder 5-8-0		L Dettori	92
505	(2)	640160		IAMUS 58 (D,F) (Hesmonds Stud) P Walwyn 3-8-12		J Reid	76
506	(4)	1-20		STORY LINE 134 (S) (Broughton Homes Ltd) B Hills 3-8-5		T Quinn	90

BETTING: 5-4 Ali-Royal, 3-1 Jarah, 5-1 Maralinga, 6-1 Nijo, 12-1 Iamus, 14-1 Story Line.

1995: STAR OF ZILZAL 3-9-2 W R Swinburn (6-4 fav) M Stoute 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALI-ROYAL 1½l 2nd of 9 to Kammtarra in conditions race at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). MARALINGA beat Kindlewave neck in 5-runner conditions race at Windsor (1m 2f, good to firm). JARAH ¾l and neck 3rd of 11 to Dedicated Hero in 1 handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to firm) with MARALINGA (2lb better off) 13l 9th. NIJO ¾l 3rd of 8 to Bishop of Cashel in group III Klyston Park Stakes at Doncaster (1m, good), September 1995. IAMUS beat Mubtarrz 2l in 13-runner maiden at Nottingham (1m, good to firm) STORY LINE ¾l 2nd of 3 to Hamza Ibsaad in conditions race at Salisbury (1m 2f, good to firm).
Selection: ALI-ROYAL

4.30 ALDIE APPRENTICES MAIDEN HANDICAP
(£3,125: 1m 5yd) (18 runners)

601	(10)	0-0036		LOVELY MORNING 27 (J Guest) D Murray Smith 3-10-0		P Doe (3)	95
602	(11)	0000		COVERED GIRL 70 (M Legge) B Hills 3-9-9		G Milligan	92
603	(2)	060326		SECRET PLEASURE 18 (Mrs S Spencer-Phillips) R Hannon 3-9-9		K Sked	90
604	(17)	654552		SAMARA SONG 21 (Tarton Builders) W & M Turner 3-9-9		D McGrabban (7)	(5)
605	(14)	5-00		ROSE TINT 30 (Lord Weinstock) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-9		Aimee Cook	90
606	(15)	066000		SCIMITAR 24 (R Marchent) P Mitchell 3-9-7		D Sweeney	98
607	(16)	340050		COLLEGE NIGHT 11 (Mrs C Dunnett) C Dwyer 4-9-4		Jo Hannam	93
608	(1)	0-30000		DURALOCK FENCER 114 (Duralock (UK) Ltd) P Murphy 3-9-4		J Dennis (3)	93
609	(13)	0-00502		DEBEDABLE 11 (T Wells) R Boss 4-9-3		G Faulkner	94
610	(7)	5000-40		IMPETUOUS LADY 67 (M Hawkett) N Berry 3-9-2		A Eddery	90
611	(19)	30065		ONE IN THE EYE 20 (T Anthony) J Poulton 3-9-1		R Mullen	96
612	(3)	050005-		RIVER WYE 1883 (S Ho) G Yardley 4-8-12		D Denby (3)	91
613	(8)	00050		CALANDRELLA 14 (Mrs K Perrin) G Balding 3-8-11		Iona Wands	98
614	(5)	0-00050		JONA HOLLEY 98 (J Balding) I Balding 3-8-11		R Fowley (7)	90
615	(12)	000-554

RUGBY UNION

World Cup kicks off with beer match in Riga

ANDREW LONGMORE follows the first steps on the road to Cardiff



If the 179th match in the World Cup, at a plush new Cardiff Arms Park on November 6, 1999, will decide who will be the champions of rugby into the next millennium, the first, at the rickety old University Stadium in Riga on Saturday, decided nothing more substantial than who would pay for the beer. A World Cup match maybe, but some ancient rites have to be preserved.

The post-match singsong, executed in a Babel of languages, from Latvian through Russian to Norwegian and Welsh, made up in gusto what it lacked in musicality. The end is three years away. Moldova and Croatia, the other members of the group, can wait. For the moment, the table in European qualifying group two (round A) puts Latvia atop the world (points for 44, points against 6) and if that — and the biggest victory in the country's 36-year rugby history — was not an excuse for a night on the town, what was?

By the early hours, the old Baltic port was awash with the sorrows of the Norway team.

"A game like that makes you think," Roar Gjertson, the hooker, muttered into his beer. "It makes you think it is time to retire." Gjertson had felt every one of his 40 years that afternoon.

> 'A former Latvia player and Norway's assistant manager ran the lines'

The Norwegians were overpowered up front and outpaced in the backs. "I have never been pushed around like that in my life," he added with a shake of his head.

Given that the Norwegians' preparations had begun and ended with a one-hour training session the previous afternoon, the lack of cohesion was hardly surprising. With their four clubs hopelessly dispersed and money tight, their hopes of victory were fuelled largely by a stirring call to arms by their Australian-born captain, Paul Kelly.

"Wear your colours with pride, mate," he told his players in the sauna-like dressing-room moments before Norway's World Cup debut. Eight Norwegians, two Englishmen, a Frenchman, an Australian, a Welshman, a Dutchman and a New Zealander agreed they would.

After all, it is not every day you get to play in the World Cup. Across the passageway, Uldis Bautris, the Latvia coach, was giving his team of eight Latvians and seven Russians their final instructions. The previous weekend, the league match between the country's top two sides, Latgalle, predominantly Russian, and Rigas Miesnicks, mostly Latvian, had been abandoned in a free-for-all.

The glistening black eyes of Demjans Zavadskis bore witness to the ferocity of the rivalry, an example, some of the hard-line nationalists in the parliament would have us believe, of the unyielding bitterness between the two ethnic groups which make up the majority of Latvia's 2.7 million population. "No, no," Vilmars Sokolovs, the Latvia lock, said, looking horrified at the thought. "The fight was not about politics, it was sport."

Bautris can remember the old days when his club, VEF, the works side of the giant electro-technical plant in Riga, had to travel 5,000 miles to play the champions, Krasnojarska, in the Soviet league. The journey took two days and three refuelling stops. But travel was cheap then and the players were semi-professionals. Now, Bautris's part-time job as coach of Riga Miesnicks is paid for by an English-born butcher, who sponsors the team to the tune of £750 a month. Miesnicks is Latvian for "butchers".

Four of the country's five clubs are formed from the remains of the old RAF (Riga Automobile Factory) club, with players divided up like kids in the playground. The fifth is the Latvian Exiles, a hotchpotch of ex-pats, locals and passers-by.

Starved of funds, rugby survives on the Latvians' flair for combat and tenuous family tradition. The 1999 World Cup was barely ten minutes old when a crew-cut 17-year-old winger sneaked over in the corner for the first try of the competition, the first of Latvia's eight. Guntars Skukausks learnt his rugby from watching his father, Peter, play for Latvia in the Seventies, but he was as blissfully ignorant of the significance of the moment as he was of his own talent. What did he want with professional rugby, he said, when he had a five-year contract to tend the ground at his own club in Riga?

Not that rugby's new-found wealth will be much use to him anyway. One camera crew, two banners and a Spanish referee was the extent of international rugby's interest. Norway's assistant manager and a former Latvia player ran the lines. A crowd of barely 200 reflected the inadequacy of the advertising as much as rugby's minority status. Latvian television devoted 30 seconds to the match.

"It did not feel much like the World Cup," Sokolovs admitted. But then he was still furious at his scrum half for not giving him a chance to make history. "You know, I really wanted to score the first try in the World Cup," he said. "But my scrum half, he looked at me and then went the other way. I will have to deal with him later." I suggested that scoring the last try in the World Cup would be better and he laughed. It would only take 14 more matches. Then someone might take notice.



Allen, the Northampton replacement for Bell, keeps Carling at bay at Franklin's Gardens on Saturday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

Carling adjusts to change of perspective

Northampton 15
Harlequins 20

BY ALISON KERVIN

HOT on the heels of Will Carling's announcement that he was resigning as England captain at the end of last season came the unlikely proposal that he wished to be considered to play at stand-off half for his country.

Was this some kind of joke? The suggestion certainly did not leave alternative England stand-off halves quaking in their boots. But, after a summer of hard training, and fulfilling the kicking duties for Harlequins early in the season, Carling satisfied his ambition, at least at club level, on Saturday when he took the field as the No 10 against Northampton.

It was not the easiest game in which to try out his newly-refined skills, playing against Paul Grayson, the incumbent England stand-off, and with Gregor Townsend, one of the world's finest exponents of the art, playing in the centre for Northampton.

The former England captain had an inauspicious start — his first kick of the game flew into touch on the full, much to the amusement of the 8,000-strong crowd at Franklin's Gardens, but he started to settle into his new role and used his bullish centre play to great effect in his new position.

His nerves, so apparent in the first ten minutes, seemed to disappear when he returned to the pitch after having six stitches inserted around his eye. Perhaps his inability to see the big, hard tackles coming his way imbued him with a new self-confidence.

He kicked a penalty immediately on his return to the pitch, then crashed through the Northampton defence to score a try, which he converted. His efforts reinforced an early unconverted try from Jim Staples. Harlequins's final try came after a Matt Dawson kick was charged down, for Huw Harries to go over.

This was undoubtedly Harlequins' toughest encounter to date and, in the end, the difference between the sides was the league leaders' front five. It is becoming increasingly hard to imagine how any team is going to win against this phenomenal Harlequins pack.



Rodber: breathing fire

Northampton battled well — their back row of Rodber, Pountney and MacKinnon did a sterling job, motivated, according to club sources, by a Bristol player who spoke to Rodber at England training this week and told him that Bristol would have beaten Harlequins if they had been more aggressive. Apparently, Rodber returned to Northampton breathing fire, ready to be as aggressive as was necessary.

That passion was there in abundance on Saturday, as he put in some ferocious tackling — particularly on Carling. It is easy to imagine how destructive Rodber could have been against another pack.

The first Northampton try was a textbook illustration of how to make a score out of nothing. Pountney stole the ball from Harlequins and passed on to Grayson, who spotted Bell coming in on an angle for the try-scoring pass.

Townsend was disappointing. The Scotland international is so often the pivot around which Northampton spin their threequarter moves, but, on this occasion, his only moment of magic was in sending a beautiful pass to Nick Beal, which allowed the wing to go over for Northampton's second try.

The only disappointment for Harlequins, as they reflect on this match, will be their failure to capitalise on their rugby league players, Gary Connolly and Robbie Paul, the latter making his debut this week.

SCORERS: Northampton: Tries: Bell, Beal Conversion: Grayson Penalty goal: Grayson Harlequins: Tries: Staples, Carling, Harries. Conversion: Carling. Penalty goal: Carling.
NORTHAMPTON: I Hunter; N Beal, G Townsend, J Bell; H Thomeycroft, P Grayson, M Dawson; M Volland, A Clarke, M Lewis, D MacKinnon, J Phillips, S Foale, A Pountney, T Rodber Bell replaced by M Allen (43-50min, 58)
HARLEQUINS: J Staples; D O'Leary, G Connolly, P Mensah, R Paul; W Carling, H Harries; J Leonard, K Wood, L Benezech, R Jenkins, Glyn Llewellyn, Gareth Llewellyn, L Cabannes, W Dawson. Jenkins replaced by I Pickup (60), N Walshe temporary replacement for Carling (23-33).
Referee: E Morrison (Bristol).

Disturbing trends highlighted by ill-tempered affair

Bath 46
West Hartlepool 10

BY PETER BILLS

FOR those of us who considered this Courage Clubs Championship first division encounter to be a nasty, smouldering game, the slanging match which followed was the last straw.

I abandoned football reporting some years ago precisely because of the kind of events which happened both during and after this game. We should be seriously concerned about rugby going the same way.

After the unsavoury deeds on the field, which led to one player being sent off and four receiving the yellow card, the combatants emerged from the dressing-rooms ready for more.

Given that the player sent off, de Jonge — for his second yellow-card offence — and the others cautioned, Ring, Peacock and Hartland, were all from West Hartlepool, it was the visitors who were firmly in the dock.

"There is no way their sort of attitude can prevail in a professional game," Brian Ashton, the Bath director of coaching, said. "When they were penalised, they wanted to prolong the argument and were frequently penalised another ten yards. Is that not a professional foul? Unfortunately, we got drawn into it.

"There is no place for such a cynical attitude. If our matches are going to be like that, they won't be worth watching."

John Hall, the club's director of rugby, echoed such views. "I was disappointed with their approach. To me, Mark Ring [the West Hartlepool player-coach] has lost the plot. It's just not right; that sort of rugby has gone. The game has cleaned itself up and it's not very positive to come out and play like they did. I don't like criticising referees, but there should have been sterner warnings early on."

Phil de Glanville, the Bath captain, said: "They just came to niggle us. After every tackle there were cheap shots going in."

Ring, naturally, took an opposing view. "Bath just want to play touch rugby and I was bitterly disappointed with the referee," he said. "Just look at the linesmen and referee, their kit was a disgrace, straight out of Oxfam. I wonder why we have not got three quality officials to handle a game at this level.

"If the referee looks at the video, he will see it is an absolute horror story for him. There was no consistency at all.

"Hall should look at the commitment shown by his players. They are not a physical side in a physical game and against better sides they are going to get exposed. I have a feeling Bath are on the way down. They were the team trying to slow the game down."

West Hartlepool's spoiling tactics succeeded for surprisingly long periods. Their spirit was commendable but their tactics were totally unnecessary. Bath were unwise to be drawn into the verbal and physical mayhem, the worst of which came after 13 minutes with a fight involving most of the players on the field.

When Bath were able to break free, they were obviously far superior, quicker in thought and deed. Sleightholme crossed in each half and other tries came from Robinson, Adebayo, Adams and de Glanville.

Their opponents, who lost Murphy with a broken arm after 21 minutes, won a surprising amount of loose ball but squandered it with some ludicrously over-ambitious miss-moves and long passes among the backs. De Glanville's interception, which preceded his 90-yard dash for his try, followed one such absurdity.

SCORERS: Bath: Tries: Sleightholme (2), Robinson, Adebayo, Adams, de Glanville Conversions: Callard (5). Penalty goals: Callard (2). West Hartlepool. Try: S John. Conversion: Silva. Penalty goal: C John.
BATH: J Callard; J Sleightholme, P de Glanville, H Paul, A Adebayo; M Catt, A Nicol; D Hilton, G Adams, J Mallett, A Robinson, M Haag, B Cusack, N Thomas, E Peters
WEST HARTLEPOOL: M Silva; K Oliphant, S John, C John, G Truelove; M Ring, M Roderick; W de Jonge, A Peacock, V Hartland, A Brown, D Mitchell, C Murphy, J Ions, R Earnshaw. Roderick replaced by C Lee (61min); Murphy replaced by G Wappett (21)
Referee: C White (Somerset)

Woodward still manages to look on bright side of life

London Irish 23
Saracens 37

BY NICOLAS ANDREWS

SPEND a Saturday afternoon with London Irish down at Sunbury and the chances are you will hurry home to scour the family tree in search of Celtic blood. The welcome is warm, the humour considerable and refreshment inevitably flows.

"*Always Look on the Bright Side of Life*," the public address system exhorted on the final whistle of this Courage Clubs Championship first division game and the exiles are adept at doing just that. "We're not a club for crises," Gary Halpin, the captain, said, but a fourth defeat in five games, three of them at home, suggests that the winter may well test even the Irish propensity for optimism.

London Irish have invested heavily to lure several members of the Ireland team to Sunbury and, a solitary victory over Northampton apart, they have not seen much of a return. The team is simply not functioning as it should, particularly behind the scrum, where penetration is decidedly lacking.

"It's the little things that lose you games," Clive Woodward, the coach, said. "We got too many little things wrong today." Like missing touch to allow Saracens to run straight back and score two tries; like getting caught offside and turned over far too often.

Saracens made losing possession into an art form against West Hartlepool last week, and the coaching staff has been preaching ball retention ever since. "The players felt they disgraced themselves," Rob Cunningham, the coach, said of that 25-16 defeat. "Last week we lost our self-respect; this week the players got it back."

Saracens were not that great, but they did enough to control the game, particularly against the wind in the second half. Humphreys had two penalty attempts after the interval, either of which would have given London Irish the lead, but both of which went wide. This was the turning point.

Saracens had taken an early lead through Lee's dropped goal. Johns then added the first of two tries scored by Ireland internationals against the exiles. Woods reduced the deficit when he intercepted a Sella pass and ran in from halfway but then Ebongalame produced the try of the game.

"We've been trying to get the ball in his hands for weeks," Cunningham said. "There's no one faster in the first division." English-born of Cameroon descent, Ebongalame came off his wing at speed before exchanging passes with Tunningley and wrong-footing the Irish defence with a double sidestep.

Two tries in four minutes, for Hill and Ravenscroft, settled the outcome in Saracens' favour after Humphreys had missed his kicks. A penalty try gave the Irish faint hope with eight minutes left, but Richard Wallace rounded things off with a try in the corner.

London Irish have gone to Devon for a two-day break to mull over their season so far. Woodward had hoped that they would have half-a-dozen points to their name by this stage and he has his work cut out to turn things round before Bath's visit this weekend. "I've just been given the chairman's full support," he joked on Saturday. Much more of this, however, and matters will become rather more serious.



Halpin: optimistic

SCORERS: London Irish: Tries: Woods, penalty try. Conversions: Humphreys (2) Penalty goals: Humphreys (3) Saracens: Tries: Johns, Ebongalame, Hill, Ravenscroft, R Wallace. Conversions: Tunningley (2), Lee. Penalty goal: Tunningley Dropped goal: Lee
LONDON IRISH: C O'Shea; N Woods, R Henderson, P Flood, J Bishop, D Humphreys, N Brers; L Mooney, R Kellam, G Halpin, A Dougan, G Fulcher, J Davidson, K Dawson, B Walsh
SARACENS: A Tunningley; R Wallace, P Sella, S Ravenscroft, M Ebongalame; A Lee, K Bracken; A Oliver, C Olney, P Wallace, G Clark, P Johns, A Copsey, R Hill, A Diprose Copsey replaced by D Zaltzman (61min).
Referee: A Rowdon (Berkshire).

McDowell heads anti-drugs campaign

LLANELLI will launch an anti-drugs campaign today in the wake of last week's disclosure that Paul Jones, their lock forward, has tested positive for using anabolic steroids (David Hands writes). Jones, who has not played this season, will go before a Welsh Rugby Union tribunal, probably on Wednesday, which will decide his punishment.

The club's campaign, backed by a fast-food chain, will be headed by Steve McDowell, the former All Blacks prop who arrived in Wales four days ago and will play for Llanelli this season. "We felt the best examples in world rugby were in New Zealand, where they random-test throughout the season," Stuart Gallagher, the Llanelli chairman, said.

"It was felt that if players like Steve go into the community, they can speak out against the use of anabolic steroids," Gallagher added. "We honestly believe that an initiative like this can help stamp out the misuse of drugs once and for all."

Both Mark Giacheri and Julian Gardner, the Australian forwards who have represented Italy over the past three years, are missing from the squad preparing for the international against Wales in Rome on Saturday. However Diego Dominguez, who scored 16 points in the 31-26 defeat suffered by Italy in Cardiff a year ago, is among the 31 players, of whom half are drawn from Treviso and Milan.

Leicester take the points but fail to reach the heights

Leicester 32
Gloucester 14

BY BARNEY SPENDER

LEICESTER scored four fine tries and collected two valuable Courage Clubs Championship first division points for a win, but there was still a vaguely empty feeling when the referee, Stewart Piercy, blew his whistle for the last time at Welford Road on Saturday.

Not the standing ovation from the 10,000 crowd that had greeted the Leicestershire cricketers when they paraded the county championship trophy before the kick-off, just a muted cheer and home for tea.

Perhaps the reason for this antipathy was that the match came frustratingly close to being a real cracker without ever quite reaching the heights.

There was a full-blooded front-row battle and sufficient moments of genuine class to show that both sides were capable of imaginative and quick-witted rugby, most notably demonstrated by the tries of Steve Hackney and Eral Anderson. But there were also far too many errors to make it an entirely pleasing affair. Too many turnovers, too many wayward passes and too much running up blind alleys.

And there was the constant interference from Piercy's whistle which brought an inordinately high penalty count, caused principally by the Gloucester spoiling tactics.

On another day, with another referee, Gloucester might have gone unpenalised, but this time their scant regard for the offside laws repeatedly got them into trouble.

Most costly were the attempts to spoil a Leicester scrummage close to their line, which led first to a yellow card for Ian Smith for not binding and then, when Scott Benton kicked the ball out of the ensuing scrum, the penalty try that gave Leicester a decisive grip on the game.

Leicester's desire to run the ball is certainly admirable and can only gain momentum when Neil Back ends his six-month suspension and reintroduces his own brand of dynamism in early November. However, the run-at-all-costs approach that they adopted, particularly in the first half on Saturday, suggested a tactical naivety and lack of thought. It also meant that their advantage in possession was reflected only in an 18-14 lead at the break.

Eight minutes into the game, Leicester conjured a marvellous try, when Austin Healey tapped a kickable penalty on the Gloucester 22-metre line and the quick hands of Eric Miller and Will Greenwood gave Hackney just enough room to squeeze over in the right-hand corner.

But then, under pressure in their own 22 and with players out of position, they tapped again and got in a terrible tangle. In the end they were lucky to escape a situation which demanded a calming, touch-finding kick from John Liley.

Gloucester exploited these moments to keep in touch through Mark Mapletoft's boot and, just before the break, it was the stand-off half who jinked gloriously through the Leicester defence before sending a looping pass out to Anderson on the right. The wing bounced through two tackles on his way to scoring his first try for Gloucester.

In the second half, though, Leicester played with more control and the penalty try effectively snuffed out the Gloucester challenge. Ten minutes from time, however, Rory Underwood, recently discarded by England, capped the day and served a reminder that he is still as quick as ever when he sprinted 80 metres to score after an interception, leaving Chris Catling to follow him home.

SCORERS: Leicester: Tries: Hackney, Cockerill, Underwood, penalty try Conversions: J Liley (3) Penalty goals: J Liley (2) Gloucester: Try: Anderson. Penalty goals: Mapletoft (3).
LEICESTER: J Liley; S Hackney, W Greenwood, S Potter, R Underwood, R Liley, A Healey; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, W Drake-Lee, M Johnson, M Poole, J Wells, E Miller Miller replaced by O Wingham (55min)
GLOUCESTER: C Catling; E Anderson, C Emmerson, M Roberts, M Lloyd, M Mapletoft, S Benton; T Windo, P Greening, A Deacon, P Glanville, D Sims, R Fidler I Smith, E Pearce.
Referee: S Piercy (Yorkshire).

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Davies adds polish to Cardiff's display of true grit

Cardiff 33
Bridgend 25

BY GERALD DAVIES

THERE is a belief that the arrival soon of the dark clouds, of rain and an icy nip in the afternoon air, will signal the end of a frothy start to the season. The mild, bright autumn and its frolicsome play will give way to winter and a frostier welcome. Many of the scores have suggested something not quite real and out of place, with much of the rugby resembling the texture of candyfloss: a colourful confection but one which is spread airily and thinly. Melting away, there is no hard core.

But the crowd at Cardiff need wait no longer. This was a hard, gritty affair. It was also mean to begin with. At the second lineout, a row broke out and, whistle as he might, the referee failed to part the warring factions.

A couple of minutes later, they were at it again. After the polite first month, in which every team seemed to be on its Sunday best behaviour, keeping everyone happy with their mild entertainment, this was like old times. At any rate, there was no more bother and both teams settled down, but not with the soft touch. The match, thankfully, retained the tough edge which, combined with the attacking intent of both clubs, created a meeting of sharpened substance.

Cardiff and Bridgend will always have old scores to settle. There was a time when Bridgend preferred nothing better than to travel to Cardiff. Between 1967 and 1981 they never lost there.

In the first half, Cardiff looked to have cast aside any fears of the past. They were playing a confident game yet, though Jonathan Davies gave them an early lead with a penalty, they contrived to give



Davies: tactical mastery

away points. Lyndon Griffiths kicked three penalties for the visitors.

Cardiff, potentially, can lift their game a couple of notches yet. They have the players to do so. At present, they are too often guilty of giving the ball away in promising circumstances. Bridgend, who did not give a sense of proper cohesion, were nonetheless tireless and tough scavengers. Griffiths and Morris were constantly probing, James and Thomas, in midfield, were robust and no respecters of anyone's reputation.

But the home team had in its stand-off half a player whose instincts are keener than most. Davies thrives on calling the tune. Here he steadied Cardiff when their energetic opponents could so easily have unsettled them. He was aided by Emyr Lewis, who added extra impetus. It was his thrust that led to Justin Thomas's first try. A chip ahead by Davies, regathered by Leigh Davies, led to Thomas's second, and when Ford picked up Hall's grubber kick to register the third try, Cardiff were thoroughly in control.

Having created the platform for this dominance, Jonathan Davies, kicking and chasing for 50 metres, got in the act and scored the fourth. Inaccurate handling helped their opponents and it was to Bridgend's credit that they took advantage of it. Tries by Adrian Williams and Griffiths, who also kicked another penalty, brought them back within three points. Griffiths and Davies exchanged penalties before Hall managed to put the issue beyond doubt with a try in the 79th minute.

SCORERS: Cardiff: Tries: Thomas (2), Ford, J Davies, Hall. Conversion: J Davies Penalty goals: J Davies (2). Bridgend: Tries: A Williams, Griffiths. Penalty goals: Griffiths (5)

CARDIFF: J Thomas, S Ford, M Hall, L Davies, S Hill; J Davies, R Howley; P Booth, A Lewis, L Mustoe, J Ringer, J Waketord, D Jones, M Bennett, E Lewis. Booth replaced by D Young (65min) Bennett replaced by H Taylor (59)

BRIDGEND: M Back, P Jones, G Thomas, D James, G Wilkins; L Griffiths, W Morris; D Frances, I Greenslade, R Shaw, J Forster, E Williams, C Stephens, C Michaluk, J Bumell Wilkins replaced by L Davies (42min); Morris replaced by K Mabley (72): Bumell replaced by A Williams (21)

Referee: H Lewis (Pontypridd)

RUGBY UNION: RICHMOND RUE LAST-MINUTE LAPSE THAT ALLOWS THEIR RIVALS TO STAY AHEAD



The pack looks on as Andy Moore, the Richmond scrum half, feeds his threequarters during the 20-20 draw with Newcastle on Saturday. Photographs: Marc Aspland

Andrew keeps Newcastle in profit

Richmond 20
Newcastle 20

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THEY have been urging Richmond on with cries of "Come on, Rich" for many years; now there is an ambiguity to the call, given the thousands of pounds spent in assembling a team designed not only to win the second division of the Courage Clubs Championship but to grace the first division too.

Money well spent? That we will not know for another seven months, by which time we may get a different result and a different style of match from that of Saturday, which saw two sides still striving for cohesion, cancelling out each other's strengths but neither able to impose itself.

The directors of rugby at Richmond and Newcastle — John Kingston and Rob Andrew, who played together for Cambridge University in 1982 — believe that their clubs would prosper in the first division. So they should, given the talent they have at their disposal but, if there is one substantial difference between this game and those played in the elite this season, it is all-round pace.

Only Tony Underwood and, perhaps, Tim Stimpson demonstrated the speed with which the first division has become familiar and it was fitting that Underwood should have scored his club's first try and made the second. He and his older brother, Rory, spend little time comparing notes on their rugby careers but one wonders whether it will be Tony who supplants England's most-capped player on the left wing, now that he is playing there for Newcastle.

After a year in the international wilderness, during which he has come through injury, a change of club and settled into married life, Tony is back into his stride. "He's training hard, he's feeling comfortable in his rugby, he's enjoying the lifestyle. His attitude is outstanding," Steve Bates, the Newcastle coach, said. Moreover, he is the Underwood in the England squad while Rory, at 33, is not.

Jack Rowell and Mike Slemen, England's coach and assistant respectively, were at Richmond to make their own assessments, along with a crowd, unofficially estimated at 6,000, who created an atmosphere unrecognisable from the sedate, slightly sad seasons of yesteryear. That the raucous pop music is not to all tastes is neither here nor there, given that Richmond are committed to attracting new fans, and, if their players can keep them on tiptoe, as they did on Saturday, they will come again.

Yet, in many respects, it was an old-fashioned match in which the forwards dictated and the backs could not break the cloying embrace of committed defenders. Richmond were fortunate to receive the penalty try which brought them back into the match just before the interval; Newcastle were let off the hook when Allan Bateman, fresh from Australia, failed to find touch and the riposte was so acute that Underwood veered into space and sent Armstrong to the line, Andrew's none-too-difficult conversion securing the draw in the final minute.

These penalty tries are becoming something of an encumbrance. Save for a dismissal, they are rugby's ultimate punishment, yet they are becoming too commonplace. Referees will argue that if they act in concerted fashion now, the players will learn their lesson and the award will recover the rarity status it used to have.

But it also creates a rod for the back of individual officials. Once a referee has started down this road, particularly in high-profile games, he may feel almost obliged to keep going. Steve Lander, who awarded the penalty try which won Bath the Pilkington Cup last May, has handed out three in league games this season — as has Tony Spreadbury, his international-panel colleague. In a month of first and second-division rugby, there have been 14 penalty tries, most of them given by England's best officials.

Clearly, the message is going out to players not to infringe or obstruct persistently, yet the law almost obliges them to do so once they are anywhere near their own line. It encourages sides to play for the penalty try — as Leicester almost certainly did in the dying seconds of their league game with Bath earlier this month — and, here, Newcastle had twice been penalised nearer their own line than the spot from which Lander eventually gave the penalty try that took Richmond to within three points of their opponents.

Yet it contributed to a richly-exciting game. Armstrong's kick into space allowed Underwood to show not only his pace but his handling skills, whereas Scott Quinnell's try from a five-metre scrum was the product of power and drive, qualities shown in even greater measure by the younger Quinnell, Craig, who is developing into a formidable presence. When Davies dropped a high, handsome goal, Richmond looked to have the game in hand, but Newcastle will concede little to anyone this season and will cherish the away point against their rivals.

SCORERS: Richmond: Tries: S Quinnell, penalty try. Conversions: Mason (2). Penalty goal: Mason. Dropped goal: Davies. Newcastle: Tries: Underwood, Armstrong Conversions: Andrew (2) Penalty goals: Andrew (2).

RICHMOND: S Mason, J Fallon, A Bateman, S Cottrell, M Hutton; A Davies, A Moore; D McFarland, B Moore, D Crompton, A Vander, C Quinnell, R West, B Clarke, S Quinnell West temporarily replaced by A Codling (14-22min)

NEWCASTLE: T Stimpson; J Bentley, A Blyth, G Childs, T Underwood; R Andrew, G Armstrong; N Popplewell, R Nesdale, G Graham, S O'Neill, G Archer, G Weir, R Arnold, D Ryan.

Referee: S Lander (Liverpool).



Andrew attempts to charge down Mason's clearance

Clubs in battle for Botica's services

Orrell 27
Wasps 44

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THE main thrust of pre-match conversation at Edge Hall Road on Saturday concerned the whereabouts of Frano Botica, the former All Black. Botica, once an integral part of Wigan's all-conquering rugby league side, had the distinction of being selected by two clubs on the same day, but played for neither.

Orrell, not a club easily intimidated, were adamant that he was their player and had been quietly seeking legal advice while others elsewhere were trumpeting his arrival. The Rugby Football Union's refusal to release the player's registration forced Llanelli to rapidly withdraw him from their line-up for the Welsh league match at Pontypridd.

Orrell issued a statement an hour before kick-off that Botica had been selected, but had failed to arrive at the ground and therefore was in breach of contract. Orrell, together with their solicitors, will meet with officials from Llanelli this week to discuss suitable terms to allow the player's transfer to go through. The new age of rugby has certainly arrived.

Any danger that such matters off the field would affect those on it were quickly dispelled in what proved to be a thrilling encounter between the top and bottom clubs in the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship. The script was only followed insofar as Wasps won.

Although rooted at the foot of the table, Orrell's young and inexperienced side are beginning to develop a cohesiveness and backbone that will surely serve them well as they approach their targeted fixtures. As for Wasps, if they have pretensions to the champions' crown come next May, then they must address the problems evident on Saturday.

They missed too many first tackles and the poor quality of ball to the energetic and enterprising Gomarsall put the scrum half under unnecessary pressure. Lapses in concentration allowed the opposition to dictate the pace and direction of the game.

With the Tuigamala brothers — Va'aiga, of Wasps, and Lua, of Orrell — in opposition for the first time, Orrell had ten points on the board within 16 minutes through a try from Lyon, and a conversion and penalty from Strett. Wasps replied with two tries from Scrase, plus a conversion and penalty from the steady Rees, to lead 15-10 at half-time.

In the second half, with King's deft hands and subtle skills giving Tuigamala the space to severely test the Orrell defence, Wasps extended their advantage to 37-10. Orrell, playing with more self belief than they have shown so far this season, narrowed the gap to ten points before Wasps scored again in the closing moments.

SCORERS: Orrell: Tries: Lyon, Heslop, Bennett, Naylor. Conversions: Strett (2). Penalty goal: Strett. Wasps: Tries: Scrase (2), Roiser (2), Tuigamala, Sheasby. Conversions: Rees (4). Penalty goals: Rees (2).

ORRELL: R Hitchmough; J Naylor, L Tuigamala, D Lyon, N Heslop; M Strett, S Cook; M Worsley, M Scott, P Turner, J Hussey, P Rees, P O'Neill, P Angelsea, A Bennett. Hussey replaced by A Macfarlane (63min).

WASPS: G Rees; L Scrase, N Greenstock, V Tuigamala, S Roiser; A King, A Gomarsall; D Molloy, S Mitchell, M Griffiths, M White, D Cronin, M Greenwood, L Dallaglio, C Sheasby. Sheasby replaced by N Hadley (76).

Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset)

Late try by Halvey seals Munster win

Leinster 40
Munster 45

BY A CORRESPONDENT

RUMOURS that the Guinness inter-provincial championship is dead, with so many top Irish players competing in England, have proved to be greatly exaggerated. At Donnybrook on Saturday, Leinster and Munster provided a pulsating match. The lead changed six times, there were eight tries and the scoreline set a record for the competition.

Richard Governey, the Leinster stand-off half, kicked a long-range penalty goal in the 80th minute to put the home side 40-38 ahead. But, four minutes into injury time, Munster stormed back. The pack drove forward and Eddie Halvey crashed over on the blind side, for the second-choice goalkicker, Mick Lynch, to land a superb conversion from the left-hand touchline.

Munster began at breakneck pace and were 13 points up inside the first ten minutes. But, with Martin Ridge and Kurt McQuilkin punching gaps in midfield, Leinster led 25-22 at half-time.

By then, David Coleman, Ridge and McQuilkin had scored tries, two of them converted by Governey, who added two penalty goals for good measure. Munster replied with three more penalty goals from Begley, but when he retired through injury, they looked to be in considerable trouble.

Their problems increased when Neil Francis went over for another Leinster try ten minutes into the second period. But, from a tapped penalty, Galwey then scored the second of his two tries.

Two penalty goals from Lynch, with a dropped goal by Keane in between, put Munster 38-30 ahead before Governey converted a try by Denis Hickie, leaving Leinster trailing by one point with 20 minutes to go.

That set up a dramatic finish, with Leinster losing their championship title in a memorable match. Now Munster have everything to play for when they take on Ulster in Limerick next Saturday.

At Ravenhill, in Saturday's other championship match, Connacht came close to beating Ulster for the first time since 1983, only to lose 32-27. Topping, Duncan and Laing scored Ulster's tries, Laing adding one conversion and five penalty goals. Carey and Elwood scored tries for Connacht. Elwood converted his own try, as well as landing a dropped goal and four penalties.

SCORERS: Leinster: Tries: Coleman, Ridge, McQuilkin, Francis, Hickie. Conversions: Governey (3). Penalty goals: Governey (3). Munster: Tries: Galwey (2), Halvey Conversions: Lynch (2). Begley. Penalty goals: Begley (5). Lynch (2). Dropped goal: Keane

LEINSTER: P McKenna (Old Belvedere); D Coleman (Terenure College), M Ridge (Old Belvedere), K McQuilkin (Lansdowne), D Hickie (St Mary's College), R Governey (Lansdowne), A Rolland (Blackrock College), H Hurley (Moseley), M McDermott (Lansdowne), A McKeen (Lansdowne), C Pim (Old Wesley, captain), S Jameson (St Mary's College), N Francis (Old Belvedere), S Rooney (Lansdowne), K Spicer (Oxford University) McKeen replaced by P Flavin (Blackrock College, 68min), Coleman replaced by G Dempsey (Terenure College, 74).

MUNSTER: D Crotty (Garryowen); S McCahill (Sunday's Well), B Walsh (Cork Constitution), M Lynch (Young Munster), B Begley (Old Crescent), K Keane (Garryowen), S McIvor (Garryowen); I Murray (Cork Constitution), T Kingston (Dolphin), N Healy (Shannon), A Foley (Shannon), M Galwey (Shannon, captain), L Denneen (Old Crescent), E Halvey (Shannon), B Cronin (Garryowen) Begley replaced by A Thompson (Shannon, 36).

Referee: G Hughes (Manchester)

Burke denies Sale fruits of revival

Sale 31
Bristol 33

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

A STRANGER wandering into Heywood Road on Saturday might have loved it, an afternoon of Vaudeville which produced nearly the greatest comeback of this manic season. A more critical analysis was still being put to the Sale team an hour after a game that they lost, won, and lost again.

Occasionally, sombre figures would emerge from the dressing-room door to explain that the "debrief" was still in progress. A quick drowning of sorrows might have been more apt than a sober debate of the obvious fact that Sale blew a winnable game after going 24-0 behind after 16 minutes.

Their recovery, which saw them nudge briefly in front was the stuff of fairy-tales, before the decisive penalty goal for Bristol by Burke, brought a cold dose of reality. A further twist was threatened by Baxendell in the last minute but he was denied by a smothering tackle by Barrow, the Bristol replacement.

Sale reversed their usual habit of starting well and finishing badly but until the players can concentrate for 80 minutes, the team will always be vulnerable. Commitment, too, was lacking during Bristol's initial surge.

The heady sight of Tiueti, twice, Burke and Regan running into yawning gaps in the Sale cover possibly convinced Bristol, to whom a fast and loose style is normally anathema, that they had nothing to beat. Barely a tackle was offered in resistance to Sale tries in six minutes by Ryan, Morris, and, best of all, Mallinder, whose gliding run from his own 22-metre line brought a crowd of less than 2,000 to their feet.

Whatever game-plans had been devised went overboard, although granted John Mitchell's leadership qualities, Sale might not have got into such a mess in the first place. Their New Zealand director of rugby remains wrapped up in immigration red tape but hopes to play at Northampton next Saturday.

Alan Davies, the Bristol coach, was disturbed by his side's failure to protect a commanding lead. "I'll admit if I'd been on the field I would have found it difficult to know what to do after scoring 24 points so quickly," he said, "but with Sale coming back, I wondered if the boys were trying to make a game of it."

Bristol's second-half scoring consisted of two penalties by Burke as their forwards hung on grimly. Stocks nibbled away at the lead with three penalties and his conversion of a penalty try, awarded for a deliberately knockdown of a potential scoring pass by Vyvyan, put Sale ahead 31-30.

In the ten minutes after Burke's conclusive penalty, the home side had their chances, but Stocks was not as sure-footed from longer range.

SCORERS: Sale: Tries: Ryan, Morris, Mallinder, penalty try. Conversion: Stocks Penalty goals: Stocks (3). Bristol: Tries: Tiueti (2), Burke, Regan. Conversions: Burke (2) Penalty goals: Burke (3).

SALE: J Mallinder; D Rees, J Baxendell, G Stocks, C Yates; N Ryan, M Warr; P Winstanley, S Diamond, A Smith, D O'Grady, J Fowler. D Baldwin, A Morris, C Vyvyan. Yates replaced by S Verbickas (76min).

BRISTOL: P Hull; D Tiueti, K Maggs, M Denney, B Breeze; P Burke, R Jones, A Sharp, M Regan, K Fulman. I Dixon, S Shaw, P Adams, D Corkery, E Rollit. Corkery replaced by C Barrow (36); Jones replaced by T Down (40)

Referee: J Pearson (Durham).

Complacent Hawick trailing in fast-moving world

Melrose 35
Hawick 13

BY MARK SOUSTER

UNLIKELY as it might seem, winning the inaugural Tennents Cup in April could be one of the worst things to have happened to Hawick. Granted, the victory brought a town, its people and the club together in a demonstration of collective spirit from which all drew inspiration: the heart-warming story of how a home-spun, home-town side upset the odds and the established order at Murrayfield. Suddenly, the club felt it had, if not the world, then at least the very best in Scotland at its feet.

Times, though, have changed, and how. Reality has smacked them in the face. Standing still is a dangerous business in the fast-moving world of rugby, union and Hawick have been guilty of complacency.

Their cup success merely papered over cracks in the edifice. No new players were brought in during the summer, mainly due to a lack of money, and tactics, based on honest endeavour and the will to win, have remained static and outdated.

That much was glaringly obvious in a match in which Brian Renwick, the Hawick captain, admitted that his team were "never at the races". The contrast with Melrose could not be greater, a club spending big money in pursuit of big dreams.

Hawick were limited in the extreme, stoic defence the best they could muster as their title aspirations were exposed for what they really are — non-existent. "There's a danger that Melrose and Watsonians will create a super league of their own. No one can match them," Renwick said.

"We still train only two evenings a week while many of the Melrose players are full-time professionals. They have so much pace and so many options."

Full results and league tables ... Page 37

After three straightforward wins against the cannon fodder of the first division at the start of the season, the Hawick deficiencies have now been exploited by Watsonians and Melrose in successive weeks. The club can trot out excuses about losing Tony Stanger and Jim Hay to injury, and the absence of three other first-team regulars, but it mattered not a jot.

That the champions failed to put the game out of reach until midway through the second half was due to sloppy handling, poor passing and a tendency to over-elaborate. Basic skills were alarmingly absent. Playing their brand of all-action 15-man rugby could be risky against better-class opponents, but, on this occasion, Melrose could afford to make their own mistakes.

Gary Parker, one of the unsung supporting cast at the Greenyards, contributed 20 points, with a try and three penalty goals in the first half and three conversions of tries scored by Aitken, Bain, and Stark in a heady ten-minute spell midway through the second. Colin Turnbull's consolation try at the death was Hawick's first in almost four hours of rugby. That said it all.

SCORERS: Melrose: Tries: Parker, Aitken, Bain, Stark. Conversions: Parker (3). Penalty goals: Parker (3). Hawick: Try: Turnbull Conversion: Welsh Penalty goals: Welsh (2).

MELROSE: R Shepherd; D Stark, S Nichol, D Bain, G Parker; C Chalmers, B Redpath; M Ross, S Brotherstone, M Browne, A Redpath, R Brown, S Aitken, N Broughton, C Hogg

HAWICK: C Turnbull; D Hughes, A Stanger, C Murray, G Sharp; S Welsh, K Reid; K Scott, J Hay, A Johnstone, G Harris, I Elliot, A Imray, J Graham, B Renwick. Stanger replaced by W Coltman (17min); Hay replaced by G Blacklock (42); Murray replaced by B Cumming (73).

Referee: J Fleming (Boroughmuir)

☐ Rob Wainwright, the Scotland captain, yesterday indicated that he would accept a part-time contract with the Scottish Rugby Union, which could signal the beginning of the end of any hope of a club breakaway in Scotland. Other players are expected to follow suit, but none will actually sign in order to keep their options open.

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Track record merits special reward

John Goodbody finds a deserving candidate for funding as a centre of sporting excellence


ROBIN MAYES

Jane Farrow, coach to the successful athletics squad at Barking Abbey comprehensive, puts students through their paces

THE Government will today launch a scheme for specialist sports colleges aimed at improving facilities and raising standards in state schools. The partnership programme between sponsors and the Government, who between them will commit at least £200,000 in funding at each college, is designed to promote excellence at all levels.

Few schools in Britain are surely more deserving of achieving the distinction than Barking Abbey comprehensive in East London. The borough of Barking and Dagenham is designated as an area of sporting and social deprivation. Yet, here is an institute, with a mixed roll of 1,600, that desperately needs the financial backing to raise still further its distinguished pedigree in sport.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Barking Abbey were national schools under-16 football champions in 1994 and finalists in the TSB English Schools' Cups in both athletics and cross country in each of the past five years. Six of the school's present crop of pupils have obtained county honours at cricket. In individual sports, one boy, Glen Coppin, is the national cross-country champion and top of the under-13 rankings for both 800 and 1,500 metres, while Nikki Ladlow is a national age-group 200 metres butterfly champion.

However, the school's record in sport does not seem to have affected its recent academic results, with the pass rates at A star to C grades in GCSE having more than doubled over the past five years. The school's performance is now higher than the national average.

Tony Maxwell, the headteacher, said: "There is a danger in the eyes of the community, in seeking to become a specialist sports school, of being seen as promoting sport, sport, sport. However, pupils come here to learn and we do send 40 of them to university every year."

However, as a former English 1,500 metres international and Cambridge athletics Blue, he is convinced of the values of physical education and sport. "They have so much to offer, teaching self-confidence and being a member of a team and getting on well with the members of that team."

It is astonishing how well the school has done despite the absence of many modern facilities. Although there are a few grass pitches on site, an all-weather public athletics track five minutes' walk away and a swimming pool reasonably close, the three gymnasiums are too small even to stage a proper basketball game. They were built in 1932 and one has holes in the roof.

Initially, Barking Abbey needs the money it would receive as a designated specialist sports college to use the available facilities more extensively than at present. This will include the provision of equipment and hiring the neighbouring athletics track for much longer periods. In the long term there are plans for a £1.6 million indoor sports hall, for which lottery money will be required.

Schools results 37

The scheme, which is being promoted by the Youth Sport Trust, is restricted to maintained secondary schools that are committed to the development of sport. The trust, which is looking for at least ten applicants by December 15 and a further 30 to 40 by January 1998, will help schools to raise the sponsorship. It will also identify and develop particularly talented youngsters.

The school has to find £100,000 of sponsorship, which the Government will then match with an equal sum, plus a further £100 per pupil per year. In Barking Abbey's case, this would bring in a further £160,000.

The local borough council is supportive. Fiona Bevan, one of its officers, who has special responsibility for PE, said: "We want to promote excellence and greater participation. If we can bid for resources that can enhance provision and that are not detrimental to any pupils, we are all for it."

Barking Abbey will now be seeking the necessary sponsorship. Maxwell said: "I am confident we will raise the money." If there were ever an example of how a locally-based company, such as Ford or Rhône Poulenc, could enhance its status in the community, then Barking Abbey provides it.

American colleges box clever in bid to make fast buck

THE BUSINESS OF SPORT

When Shaquille O'Neal, the basketball player, moved recently from Orlando Magic to Los Angeles Lakers in a $120 million (about £77 million) deal, the size of the package prompted a few raised eyebrows in the American press, but hardly the outcry that has followed some of the football transfers in this country.

The United States has long been more at ease with a close relationship between sport and money than in the United Kingdom. The rules of its leading professional sports have been modified to suit the needs of television and sponsors; teams are run as business franchises and, if the owners decide that there is better money to be made elsewhere, few have qualms about relocating the team. Even those players who are not of the stature of O'Neal earn wages that make Alan Shearer's pay seem like pocket money.

So it comes as some surprise to find that the country is at present taxed by as seemingly trivial a development as the addition of skyboxes — corporate hospitality suites — to college American football grounds. The move by more than 40 of the leading colleges to try to raise extra funds by adding skyboxes has prompted concerned correspondents in letters pages across the country, while *The Washington Post* used an editorial to decry the "demise of democratic grandeur" that it believes the segregation of college sports grounds represents.

The outcry is a result of the complex role that college sport performs in the United States. On the one hand, university sport nominally still clings to the amateur ideals, offering the opportunity for talented individuals to develop their sporting skills in tandem with academic learning. The local college sports ground provides a focus for town and gown, with everyone sharing the discomfort of the wooden seats.

College sport, though, has also developed into an integral part of the professional sports system. Basketball and American football rely on colleges to breed and blood players. This has inevitably led to an unseemly scramble as shadowy agents target young sportsmen with gifts and bribes in the hope of taking a cut of lucrative future professional contracts.

Marcus Camby, of the University of Massachusetts, who was voted college basketball player of the year, recently admitted taking cash and gifts worth several thousand dollars from potential agents.

Television has also developed the potential of college sports. Large areas of the United States have no professional teams, so college sides provide a substitute; also, most colleges, which are large by British standards, can deliver an instant captive audience of hundreds of thousands of alumni.

Not surprisingly, the colleges have cottoned on to the fund-raising potential of their sports teams. The skyboxes are merely the latest manifestation of this trend, albeit a highly lucrative one, with each box capable of bringing in $80,000 a season. The University of Nebraska is effectively charging $625 a game for an individual in a box, compared with the normal admission charge of $28. Businesses, meanwhile, like the superior comfort and service, and the fact that the cost is tax deductible.

The arrival of the skyboxes has resulted in battle lines being drawn between the last defenders of the amateur tradition, who question whether colleges should be supporting professional sport, and those colleges that have embraced the changes. Two famous sporting colleges, the Universities of Notre Dame and of Michigan, have explicitly rejected skyboxes, but, for most colleges, including Texas A & M, which used skybox money to pay for a new $3.6 million tennis centre, the lure of extra funds is likely to prove decisive.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

CRICKET: PAKISTAN FALL WELL SHORT OF DEMANDING VICTORY TARGET

Record stand sets up South Africa win


Rhodes: fleet-footed in his pursuit of century

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

DARYLL CULLINAN and Jonty Rhodes shared a partnership of 232, a fourth-wicket record for one-day internationals, as South Africa beat Pakistan by 62 runs in the Kenya centenary four-nation tournament in Nairobi yesterday. Cullinan scored 124 and Rhodes 121 as South Africa recovered from 38 for three to post a daunting 321 for eight from their 50 overs.

Although Ijaz Ahmed contributed an enterprising 88 from only 61 balls, Pakistan never looked likely to mount a serious challenge and were dismissed for 259 with more than seven overs remaining. Allan Donald, who dismissed Ijaz, taking three for 29 in eight overs.

Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis quickly had South Africa in trouble after they had been put in to bat but proved powerless to curb Cullinan and Rhodes, whose partnership was marked by electrifying running between the wickets.

Rhodes was dropped when 65, by Ijaz at backward square-leg, but otherwise he and Cullinan were in complete control as both fielding and bowling became increasingly ragged.

Cullinan eventually holed out to Salim Malik, having hit 12 fours from 117 balls, while Rhodes had hit 11 fours from 114 balls received when he was run out in the 47th over.

Rhodes then kept Pakistan on the back foot by running out Saeed Anwar with a direct hit from backward point in the first over. Anwar's opening partner, Saleen Elahi, hit 54 and shared a third-wicket stand of 67 with Ijaz, but once they were parted, Pakistan's hopes faded.

☐ Mark Taylor, who is recovering from back surgery, and his Australian team set out yesterday on a six-week tour of India which includes one Test match and a one-day series.

Scoreboard, page 37

SPORTS LETTERS

Problems of two-tier system

From Mr Clive Mackie

Sir, Alan Lee (Championship Commentary, September 23) propounds an eminently satisfactory system for dividing the county cricket championship into two divisions.

One important facet of a two-tier system, however, appears to have been overlooked. With the lack of control on players transferring from one county to another, players in the lower division would soon be constantly striving, not to get their county promoted to the upper echelon, but to obtain employment for themselves with a county well-established in the top division.

As a result, a number of counties will be permanently located in the lower division and attempts to engage or develop star performers will be constantly thwarted.

This undesirable feature could largely be ameliorated by the new English Cricket Board insisting that players who change counties should be disbarred (unless they are in the twilight of their careers) from playing for their new county in the championship during the season immediately following their engagement.

The county to which a player was transferring would have to pay the player for that interim season in order to avoid falling foul of the legislation regarding an individual's right to work, so only those players whose skills are seen as worth a year's wait will be receiving offers.

If the lawyers find a way of giving a legal right to a transferred player to insist on playing championship matches straightaway, the ECB could counter with a proviso that a side would receive, say, three fewer points for a win in respect of each such transferred player included in the winning team.

By adopting the fallow year, sides such as Durham could actually aspire in time to first-division status; otherwise those sides would be perpetually consigned to the cricketing ragbag which, even if it could be argued to be in the interests of the Test team, would impoverish the less popular counties and not be to the overall good of the game.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE MACKIE,
Withermere,
Burwash, East Sussex.

From Mr Alan Cain

Sir, If the two-tier system for the county cricket championship is adopted, one would hope that, with half as many fixtures, provision could be made for time lost through bad weather to be made up. This would end the lottery which has existed in the competition for decades.

In the season just ended Surrey seemed to be particularly badly hit by games against Nottinghamshire, at Trent Bridge, and Worcestershire, at the Oval, where whole days were lost while other counties involved in the title chase were not so affected.

Where competitions such as the Britannic Assurance are sponsored, the financial difference of some £40,000 between first and third places should not be decided by the influence of the weather.

Is there not also a risk, if the two-tier system is adopted, that the gap left by half as many four-day fixtures might result in more one-day competitions, which counties may want to supplement income from a reduced fixture-list and possibly reduced sponsorship and membership? Why not achieve the aim of less cricket by dispensing with the second innings?

Yours etc.,
ALAN CAIN,
4 The Hawthorns,
120 Mulgrave Road,
Sutton, Surrey.

Foreign influence for good

From Mr Paul Hodson

Sir, I cannot agree with your columnist Steve McManaman (September 23). As a football supporter, I am concerned about our national game and not just the fortunes of the constituent clubs or even the players that belong to them.

Players such as Klinsmann, Ravanelli, Leboeuf, Berger, Juninho and Emerson have not only improved the quality of our national sides, but more is being learned from them than can be learned from the established coaches in the game, who are, at best, reluctant to change a style that has proved a complete failure.

British players should take far more of the blame than McManaman wants to attribute to them. I support Tottenham and can point to one instance where money was the only factor in a transfer. This player claimed he wanted the main striker's role, and was promised it, but left anyway. He is now not playing in that role for club or country.

For years the top clubs have treated the rest as a cheap pool of talent, paying out a few hundred thousand for players who, in a short time, are "worth" millions. What the Bosman case has done is make us all (supporters, players, coaches, and directors) re-examine how these clubs are treated. Recent suggestions of better evaluating what has been spent on training and coaching young stars and of bigger clubs adopting smaller ones are proof of this.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL HODSON,
64 Bright Street,
Whitmore Reans,
Wolverhampton,
West Midlands.

Not exclusive

From Mr Simon Reed

Sir, Eurosport can take criticism on the chin with the best of them, but Rob Hughes made an error in reviewing the coverage of the Portuguese Grand Prix in Estoril (TV Action Replay, September 23) which shed a poor light on the commentary team.

Tony Jardine did indeed say that the BBC had exclusive news from the Renault-Williams team that Damon Hill had a clutch problem. He may have thought it was exclusive, but Eurosport also had that information from its own contacts in the pits and broadcast it immediately.

I appreciate that, with Rob switching channels so often, it is very likely that something could be missed, but if that something provides him with the main thrust of his review, then we have to shout unfair.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON REED, Head of English Commentary, Eurosport,
55 Drury Lane, WC2.

Keeping to budget

From the Chairman of Totnes Rugby Football Club

Sir, At my Devon first division rugby union club we have tried to operate our little business in a professional manner. To raise the £11,000 needed to run our teams each season, we have drawn up budgets for our income and outgoings and work within those confines. Our main income is from our bar. Whilst sponsorship and gate revenue play a minor part in our calculations, each season it is readily noticeable that we cannot pay our players on our income.

I realise that the scale of operations of clubs such as Newcastle and Harlequins brings them in much greater revenues than ours and they are therefore happily able to share some of this good fortune with their players. I imagine, though, that they too go through the same process as we do when it comes to looking ahead and wonder why they did not cut the cloth to suit when arriving at their possible wages bill. It is not a good advertisement for their management if they sign contracts with players on the expectation of being able to increase their share of an unnegotiated sum.

Most businesses endeavour to keep wage bills to a minimum and most of the young men in my club would be delirious at the thought of having five times their average annual wage paid to them for playing each season.

Yours faithfully,
R. L. TOWNSEND
(Chairman, Totnes RFC),
2 Christina Park,
Bridgetown, Totnes, Devon.

Under the whip

From Mr Bryan Hyde

Sir, The whip rule in horse racing has led to improved riding standards. Interference has dropped due to jockeys riding with their hands, heads and heels rather than just their whips.

The only real solution is for whips to be banned, in the first year on two-year-olds, then on two-year-olds and three-year-olds, then in all races.

The current regulations are causing problems, but increased use of the whip cannot be the answer. Horses (and jockeys) are disqualified for slight misjudgments at 40mph causing interference, yet when riders disobey the whip rules, the owner, trainer and jockey keep their percentages of the prize-money.

One solution would be that, when a rider breaks the whip rule, the prize-money is withheld. Jockeys alone must not be punished with suspensions for a number of days; trainers, too, ought to receive similar treatment.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN HYDE,
5 Redgate Close,
Wickford,
Essex.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

Swift 1993 Limited
(In Members Voluntary Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I was appointed Liquidator of the above company on 6 September 1996.
This notice is purely formal as all creditors have been or will be paid in full.
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Edinburgh
EH2 4NH

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MEETING OF CREDITORS OF CRM FUELS LIMITED
CRM FUELS (MALDON) LIMITED
CRM FUELS (HAVERHILL) LIMITED
CRM PROPERTIES LIMITED
MACHIN OIL COMPANY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that meetings of the Creditors of the above named companies will be held at The Strathmore Thistle Hotel, Arndale Centre, Luton, Bedfordshire on 15 October 1996 at 11.30 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the Act.
Creditors should lodge particulars of their claims for voting purposes at 400 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU before the meeting. Secured creditors (unless they surrender their security) should also include a statement giving details of their security, the date(s) on which it was given and the value at which it is assessed. Any creditor entitled to attend and vote at these meetings is entitled to do so either in person or by proxy. Completed proxy forms must be lodged at 400 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 3LU not later than 12 noon on the business day prior to the meeting.
The resolutions to be taken at the meetings may include a resolution specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated and that the meetings may receive information about or be called upon to approve the costs of preparing the Statement of Affairs and convening the meetings.
C E Reyment of Ernst & Young is a person qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the company who will during the period before the day of the meetings, furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably required.
DATED THIS 26th OF September 1996.
S Machin - Director

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION
ADMIRALTY COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE SUPREME COURT ACT 1981
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE OWNERSHIP OF THE VESSEL "MOODY MISTRESS"
BETWEEN:
DAVID ALEXANDER TAYLOR
Plaintiff
-and-
(1) COSMO VERRICO (A MALE)
(2) ALL OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE VESSEL "MOODY MISTRESS"
Defendants
TAKE NOTICE that this Honourable Court on 26 September 1996 made an Order that:-
1. Unless Notice is given of a claim to title of any other party on or prior to 17 October 1996 it be adjudged:
1.1 The Plaintiff is the lawful, true and proper Owner of the entirety of the shares in the vessel "Moody Mistress" and
1.2 The Plaintiff is entitled to be registered as the owner of the vessel "Moody Mistress" under registration number 378580 (Guernsey) and
1.3 The vessel "Moody Mistress" may properly be registered as a British Ship under registration number 378580 (Guernsey) in the name of the Plaintiff and
1.4 the Plaintiff is entitled to sell the vessel "Moody Mistress" and to give good and/or clean and/or unencumbered title to any purchaser.
2. Accordingly any person claiming title to the vessel "Moody Mistress" or any part thereto should notify HILL DAVIS CARPMELL, telephone 0161 236 5400, reference JGW/TAS on or before 17 October 1996.
TO: ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
I, LUTFI CHARMOLLY who has resided for the past six months at 9 Salmon Street, Kingsbury, London NW9 8PP and carried on the trade or calling during the aforesaid period of six months of Property Investor DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that it is MY intention to apply at the Licensing Sessions for the Licensing Division of EALING to be held at ACTON MAGISTRATES COURT, Winchester Street, Acton, London W3 8PD on WEDNESDAY the 16TH day of OCTOBER 1996 at 10.00 a.m. the forenoon for the grant to ME of a Justices' Licence authorising ME to sell by retail at the premises known as 5 CENTRAL PARADE, WESTERN AVENUE, PERIVALE, MIDDLESEX UB6 8TP in the said Licensing Division intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption ON the premises.
GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 20TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1996

No. 0049716 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF WILLIAM COOK plc
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 18 September 1996 confirming the cancellation of the share premium account of the above-named company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 20 September 1996.
Dated the 24 day of September 1996
LINKLATERS & PAINES (DTL)
Barrington House
59-67 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7JA
Solicitors for the above-named Company

The Insolvency Act 1986
A.S.A. PARTNERSHIP LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FCA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square London EC1M 6BN was appointed Liquidator of the said company by the members and creditors on 19th September 1996.
M.R. DORRINGTON, Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
MOBILE SALES LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FCPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square London, EC1M 6BN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 25th September 1996.
M.R. DORRINGTON, Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion
Scheme for the amendment of previous Schemes
Reference: AJR/232674/192161/CSI(Admin)
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at Lawson Lewis & Co, 11 Hyde Gardens, Eastbourne, Sussex BN21 4PT, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Charity Commission, 2nd Floor, 20 Kings Parade, Queens Dock, Liverpool, L3 4DQ, quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BARNES WILLIAM SIDNEY BARNES late of Macclesfield, Cheshire died there on 16 April 1996
(Estate about £6000)

BEARPARK, MAJORIE BEADTRIARE BEARPARK otherwise MARJORIE BEARPARK SPINSTER late of Kilburn, London NW6 died at Westminster, London W2 on 6 June 1996
(Estate about £14,000)

BUCK, ALBERT HENRY BUCK late of Hadleigh, Essex died there on 6 June 1996
(Estate about £18,000)

COBB, LESLIE EDWARD COBB late of Southend on Sea Essex died there on 24 February 1996
(Estate about £40,000)

COOPER, MARGARET MARY COOPER Spinster late of Exeter, Devon died there on 4 October 1996
(Estate about £6,400)

COOPER, WILLIAM JOSEPH COOPER late of Malmesbury, Wiltshire died at Swindon, Wiltshire on 27 February 1995
(Estate about £6,500)

DAVIES, THOMAS GEORGE DAVIES late of Holywell, Flintshire died there on 10 April 1996
(Estate about £19,000)

DAVIS, DAVID GEORGE DAVIS otherwise DAVID ERNEST DAVIS otherwise DAVID GEORGE ERNEST DAVIS late of Sydenham, London SE26 died at Lewisham, London SE13 on 19 September 1995
(Estate about £5,700)

FOSTER, PRUDENCE FOSTER Widow late of Darlaston, West Midlands died at Walsall, West Midlands on 28 December 1994
(Estate about £9,000)

FROST, ALEXANDER CHARLES FROST late of Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside died there on 7 June 1995
(Estate about £20,000)

GILLETT, JOHN PERCY GILLETT late of Tooting, London SW17 died there on 8 December 1995
(Estate about £90,000)

GREEN nee BATCHELOR, MARGARET HOLLOWAY GREEN otherwise MARGARET GREEN nee BATCHELOR Widow
late of Greenwich, London SE10 died at Woolwich, London SE18 on 2 January
(Estate about £17,000)

HADFIELD, GORDON HADFIELD otherwise GORDON KEITH HADFIELD late of Methley, West Yorkshire died there on 15 September 1995
(Estate about £160,000)

HUNT, HAROLD HUNT late of Dagenham, Essex died at Romford, Essex on 31 March 1996
(Estate about £10,000)

JAVERI, JHANA JAVERI Spinster late of Upper Holloway, London N 19 died there on 27 September 1995 (Estate about £20,000)

JONES otherwise REYNOLDS, NORAH JONES otherwise NORAH JONES REYNOLDS Spinster late of Fulham, London SW6 died there on 21 December 1996
(Estate about £22,612)

IMESON, JAMES WILLIAM IMESON late of Rotherhithe, London SE16 died at Southwark, London SE1 on 13 December 1995
(Estate about £7,000)

KENT, RONNIE GEORGE KENT late of Enfield, Middlesex died there on 4 May 1996
(Estate about £16,000)

LEVY, LEAH LEVY Spinster late of Barking, Essex died there on 3 March 1996 (Estate about £16,000)

NICOL, ELIZABETH BARRIE NICOL Spinster late of Westminster, London SW1 died there on 25 March 1996
(Estate about £12,000)

NOVAKOVIC, PETRO NOVAKOVIC otherwise PERO NOVAKOVIC late of Littlemore Oxford died there on 13 May 1992
(Estate about £20,000)

SIGLER, ALEC SIGLER late of Hackney, London E8 died there on 29 October 1994
(Estate about £15,000)

THOMPSON, LAURA ELIZABETH THOMPSON otherwise LAURA TAER THOMPSON Widow late of Barnet, Essex died there on 17 July 1994
(Estate about £5,700)

WELSH nee ADKIN, HILDA WELSH nee ADKIN Widow late of Nottingham died there on 9 November 1995
(Estate about £9,000)

WILKINS, GEORGE WILKINS late of Rugby, Warwickshire died there on 10 May 1996
(Estate about £100,000)
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.
EVANS, GEORGE ERIC EVANS late of Coventry, West Midlands died there on 16 April 1996
(Estate about £10,000)
The Widow and kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

FOR THE RECORD

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (AFL): Final: North Melbourne 19.17 (131) *Sydney Swans* 13.10 (88)

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Friday: Boston 2 New York 4, Texas 4 California 3, Toronto 3 Baltimore 3, Oakland 3 Seattle 5, Detroit 2 Milwaukee 7, Kansas City 4 Cleveland 5, Minnesota 7 Chicago 6, Saturday: Boston 7 New York 5; Detroit 6 Milwaukee 7 (in 5); manager: Toronto 3 Baltimore 2; Kansas City 11 Cleveland 6; Minnesota 2 Chicago 4; Texas 3 California 4, Texas 3 (in 15 innings); Oakland 8 Seattle 1

East division	W	L	Pct	GB
† New York	92	69	.571	—
* Baltimore	88	73	.547	4
Boston	84	77	.522	8
Toronto	73	88	.453	19
Detroit	53	109	.329	39
Central division				
† Cleveland	99	61	.619	—
Chicago	85	76	.528	14½
Milwaukee	79	82	.491	20½
Minnesota	77	84	.478	22½
Kansas City	74	86	.463	25
West division				
† Texas	89	72	.553	—
Seattle	85	75	.531	3½
Oakland	77	84	.478	12
California	70	90	.438	18½

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Friday: Cincinnati 2 St Louis 5, Colorado 5 San Francisco 8, Chicago 7 Pittsburgh 8, Los Angeles 2 San Diego 4; New York 4 Philadelphia 2; Montreal 0 Atlanta 4; Houston 5 Florida 1, Saturday: Chicago 4 Pittsburgh 7 (in 10 innings; first game), Chicago 10 Pittsburgh 9 (second game) Montreal 4 Atlanta 6; New York 5 Philadelphia 6, Colorado 3 San Francisco 9, Houston 2 Florida 3, St Louis 2 Cincinnati 1 (in 11 innings); Los Angeles 2 San Diego 5 (in 10 innings)

East division	W	L	Pct	GB
† Atlanta	96	65	.596	—
Montreal	87	74	.540	9
Florida	80	81	.497	16
New York	71	90	.441	25
Philadelphia	66	95	.410	30
Central division				
† St Louis	88	73	.547	—
Houston	81	80	.503	7
Cincinnati	80	81	.497	8
Chicago	76	85	.472	12
Pittsburgh	72	89	.447	16
West division				
* Los Angeles	90	71	.559	—
* San Diego	90	71	.559	—
Colorado	82	79	.509	8
San Francisco	68	93	.422	22

* Clinched wild card
† Clinched division title

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Manchester 84 Leopards 77; Derby 78 Birmingham 84; Hemel and Watford 91 Chester 93; Thames Valley 87 Sheffield 105; Worthing 70 Crystal Palace 72; London 122 Hemel and Watford 80; Newcastle 92 Thames Valley 80.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
London	4	4	0	387	280	8
* Chester	3	3	0	259	239	6
* Derby	5	3	2	475	468	6
* Sheffield	4	3	1	343	310	6
Newcastle	3	3	0	291	258	6
Birmingham	4	2	2	326	320	4
Leopards	4	2	2	361	361	4
Thames Valley	5	2	3	479	480	4
* Manchester	4	2	2	288	308	4
Crystal Palace	5	1	4	375	420	2
* Leicester	2	1	1	151	141	2
* Worthing	4	0	4	292	342	0
Hemel and Watford	5	0	5	425	535	0

* *not including last night's matches*

BILLIARDS

BOMBAY: World championship: Semi-finals: M Russell (Eng) bt D Causer (Eng) 2,695-755, G Sethi (India) bt A Shandilya (India) 1,781-845. Final: Russell bt Sethi 2,534-1,848.

BOWLS

COUNTY MATCH: Essex 137 Bedfordshire 110

BOXING

BROADWAY THEATRE, Barking: British heavyweight championship eliminator (12rnds): Julius Francis (Woolwich) bt James Oyebola (Paddington) rsc 5th. European light-middleweight championship (12rnds): Floyd Havard (Fr) bt Ahmet Dutluev (Russ) rsc 9th. Heavyweight (6rnds): Michael Holden (Manchester) bt Mikael Lindblad (Swe) pts. Super-middleweight (6rnds): Enzo Gordano (Islington) bt Ernie Loveridge (Wolverhampton) pts. Featherweight (6rnds): Frederic Perez (Fr) bt Miguel Matthews (Wales) pts; Fabrice Bonichou (Fr) bt Peter Buckley (Birmingham) pts.

CHESTER, West Virginia: Professional middleweight bout: Roberto Duran (Pan) bt Mike Culbert (US) rsc 6th.

STEVENAGE: Commonwealth flyweight championship: Peter Culshaw (Liverpool) holder bt James Wanene (Ken) rsc 7th. Light-welterweight: Nicky Berdle (Wales) bt Brian Coleman (Birmingham) pts. Light-middleweight: Steve Roberts (West Ham) bt Rob Stevenson (Hull) pts. Lightweight: Michael Ayers (Tooting) bt Tony Swift (Solihull) rsc 5th. Bantamweight: Spencer Oliver (Barnet) bt Rowan Williams (Birmingham) rsc 3rd.

CRICKET

Kenya Cup

Kenya v Sri Lanka

NAIROBI *(Sri Lanka won toss): Sri Lanka beat Kenya by seven wickets*

KENYA

D Chudasama b Vaas	0
†K Otieno lbw b S C de Silva	2
S Gupta b Muralitharan	41
S Tikoto lbw b S C de Silva	5
*M Odumbe c Kaluwitharana b Ronatunga	3
H Modi not out	78
T Odoyo b Muralitharan	9
M Suji c Gurusinha b Muralitharan	0
E Odumbe b Muralitharan	5
A Karim run out	24
Rajab Ali not out	1
Extras (lb 8, w 11, nb 1)	20
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs)	188

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-7, 3-14, 4-31, 5-55, 6-83, 7-85, 8-93, 9-182.

BOWLING: Vaas 10-2-40-1; S C de Silva 8-0-27-2; Ronatunga 3-0-10-1; Dharmasena 10-1-38-0; Muralitharan 10-4-18-4; Chandana 5-0-22-0; Jayasuriya 4-0-24-0

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya lbw b E Odumbe	5
†R S Kaluwitharana not out	100
A P Gurusinha lbw b E Odumbe	0
P A de Silva c E Odumbe b M Odumbo	55
*A Ranatunga not out	25
Extras (lb 1, w 4)	5
Total (3 wkts, 30.4 overs)	190

H P Tillekaratne, U U Chandana, H D B K Dharmasena, S C de Silva, W P U J C Vaas and M Muralitharan did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-7, 3-128

BOWLING: Rajab Ali 4-0-23-0; E Odumbe 4-1-29-2; Suji 5-4-0-48-0; Karim 7-0-42-0; Odoyo 6-0-34-0; M Odumbe 4-0-13-1

Umpires: I Robinson and R Tiffin (Zimbabwe).

Pakistan v South Africa

NAIROBI *(Pakistan won toss): South Africa beat Pakistan by 62 runs*

SOUTH AFRICA

A C Hudson lbw b Waqar	2
G Kirsten lbw b Wasim	16
D J Cullinan c Salim Malik b Waqar	126
P L Symcox lbw b Wasim	0
J N Rhodes run out	121
*W J Cronje c Ijaz b Saqlain	11
B M McMillan lbw b Saqlain	4
†D J Richardson not out	11
P S de Villiers b Saqlain	3
C R Matthews not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 18, w 8, nb 3)	30
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	321

A A Donald did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-37, 3-38, 4-270, 5-299, 6-305, 7-312, 8-316.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 10-0-42-2; Waqar Younis 9-0-48-2; Shahid Nazir 7-0-54-0; Anwar Mahmood 9-0-73-0; Saqlain Mushtaq 10-0-42-3; Salim Malik 3-0-26-0; Ijaz Ahmed 2-0-17-0.

PAKISTAN

Saeed Anwar run out	1
Salim Elahi c Richardson b McMillan	54
Saeed Azad lbw b de Villiers	14
Ijaz Ahmed c Cronje b Donald	88
Salim Malik run out	0
†Moin Khan run out	37
*Wasim Akram b Donald	8
Azhar Mahmood b Symcox	15
Saqlain Mushtaq b Donald	2
Waqar Younis b de Villiers	28
Shahid Nazir not out	5
Extras (b 5, lb 4, w 4)	13
Total (42.3 overs)	259

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-48, 3-115, 4-117, 5-189, 6-200, 7-210, 8-210, 9-229.

BOWLING: de Villiers 8-3-0-39-2; Matthews 6-0-44-0; Donald 8-0-39-3; McMillan 8-0-49-1; Cronje 2-0-21-0; Cullinan 1-0-8-0; Symcox 9-0-60-1

Umpires: R Tiffin (Zimbabwe) and S K Bansal (India).

GOLF

EUROPEAN ORDER OF MERIT: Leading positions: 1, C Montgomerie (Scot) £684,646; 2, I Woosnam (Wales) £541,298; 3, R Allenby (Aus) £456,803; 4, C Rocca (It) £414,351; 5, L Westwood (Eng) £333,306; 6, A Coltart (Scot) £305,717; 7, M McNulty (Zim) £271,077; 8, P Hommgren (Ire) £247,093; 9, T Bjorn (Den) £246,604; 10, R Russell (Scot) £245,580; 11, M A Martin (Sp) £240,413; 12, W Riley (Aus) £239,733; 13, J van de Velde (Fr) £237,809; 14, P Mitchell (Eng) £233,022; 15, S Ames (Trin) £232,534; 16, M A Jiménez (Sp) £226,594; 17, P Broadhurst (Eng) £227,054; 18, P McGinley (Ire) £224,940; 19, J Lomas (Eng) £222,952; 20, P Lawrie (Scot) £215,942.

RYDER CUP POINTS TABLE: Leading positions: 1, Montgomerie 255.198pts; 2, Bjorn 170,743; 3, Rocca 161,014; 4, Martin 135,650; 5, P-U Johansson (Swe) 134,280; 6, van de Velde 94,290; 7, S Torrance (Scot) 88,045; 8, Jiménez 79,413; 9, R Chapman (Eng) 65,407; 10, Mitchell 62,070, 11, Woosnam 60,680, 12, R Drummond (Scot) 60,096; 13, Coltart 59,640; 14, D Clarke (N Ire) 56,283; 15, Broadhurst 54,474; 16, P Curry (Eng) 51,257; 17, D Howell (Eng) 46,573; 18, Harrington 44,500; 19, Lomas 41,947; 20, D Gilford (Eng) 39,457

CLEMMONS, North Caroline: Vantage seniors championship: Leading second-round scores: 134: J C Snead 66, 68 135: G Player 70, 65; J Colbert 65, 70. 136: R Floyd 69, 67; H Irwin 69, 67 137: S Hobday 69, 68; R Acton 66, 71, J Bland 67, 70, D Weaver 66, 71; D January 66, 71; K Zarley 66, 71 138: G Gilbert 71, 67; M Hill 68, 70; L Colbert 68, 70 139: F Fisher 70, 69; D Stockton 71, 68; G Morgan 69, 70; C Peele 68, 71, D Hendrickson 67, 72. 140: B Allin 71, 69; M Barber 70, 70; R Charles 70, 70; D Bies 71, 69; B Stroble 72, 68; A Geiberger 72, 68; T Aaron 69, 71; L Laoretti 72, 68; B Dickson 69, 71; J McGee 73, 67. B Eastwood 68, 72, L Mowry 68, 72; I Aoki 74, 66.

PINE MOUNTAIN, Georgia: Buick Challenge: Leading second-round scores (US unless stated): 134: F Funk 69, 65; J Maginnes 68, 66; D Love 66, 68, M Bradley 68, 66; L Mattiace 66, 68. 135: B Fleisch 69, 66; F Couples 68, 67; M Dawson 70, 65. 136: S Cink 66, 70; B Bryant 68, 68. 137: B Watkins 64, 73; W Wood 69, 68; H Sutton 71, 66. 138: O Browne 66, 72, G Boros 68, 70; N Lancaster 69, 69; J McGovern 65, 73; J Kelly 70, 68; J Furyk 69, 69. Selected scores: 140: C Parry (Aus) 70, 70, S Elkington (Aus) 68, 72. 142: V Singh (Fiji) 73, 69. 144: F Allem (SA) 74, 70. D Watson (Zim) 73, 71. 145: G Ware (NZ) 75, 70. 147: S Ramaut (Aus) 74, 73. S Appleby (Aus) 74, 73. 148: L Parsons (Aus) 74, 74. 149: A Cejka (Ger) 76, 73. 151: B Hughes (Aus) 77, 74.

HAMBURG: German Open. Leading final scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 281: J Morley 69, 72, 72, 68. 285: M Hjorth (Swe) 67, 73, 71, 74. 286: L Hockney 69, 75, 70, 72. 287: H Wadsworth 71, 70, 72, 74. 288: L Brooky (NZ) 70, 72, 72, 74, E Orley (Switz) 72, 70, 71, 75. 289: L Navarro (Sp) 72, 75, 70, 72; R Hotherington (Aus) 69, 70, 75, 75. 291: C Sorenstam (Swe) 71, 75, 72, 73. M-L de Lorenzi (Fr) 69, 70, 74, 78. 292: A Gotmo (Swe) 71, 72, 75, 74. 293: P Mourier Lebouc (Fr) 68, 75, 75, 75, W Dicks 69, 79, 69, 76, S Mendoburu (Fr) 68, 69, 73, 82. 294: S Prosser 71, 74, 75, 74; J Mills (Aus) 72, 73, 73, 76, P Stenier (Swe) 75, 72, 71, 76. 295: R Camodo (Sp) 74, 76, 73, 72; A-C Jonasson (Swe) 70, 75, 76, 74, M Hageman (Holl) 72, 76, 73, 74. D Barnard 72, 71, 75, 77, S Dallongeville (Fr) 73, 71, 74, 77; K Mourgue d'Algue (Fr) 71, 76, 70, 78.

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina: LPGA Fieldcrest Classic: Leading third-round scores (US unless stated): 203: D Pepper 68, 67, 68. 205: D Eggeling 68, 69, 68. K Said 68, 67, 70; G Graham (Can) 67, 67, 71. 208: P Johnson (GB) 67, 71, 68. 207: K Tschetter 68, 73, 66, R Hood 65, 71, 71. B Mucha 70, 68, 69, C Haley 70, 69, 67. D Andrews 68, 69, 70. 210: H Alfredsson (Swe) 67, 72, 71, 211: L Davies (GB) 72, 68, 71. D M Koch (Swe) 68, 71, 72. 212: E Dahlof (Swe) 70, 69, 70, J Wyatt (Can) 71, 70, 71; S Little (SA) 70, 69, 73, H Kobayashi (Japan) 67, 71, 74. 213: T Abelbol (Sp) 73, 70, 70. 214: J Crafter (Aus) 75, 68, 71: N Harvey (Can) 71, 72, 71. C Pierce (GB) 70, 71, 73. 215: K Marshall (GB) 73, 69, 73. 217: L Bommenutt (Be) 68, 74, 75. 218: K Lunn (Aus) 70, 71, 77.

CRADOC: Welsh Brewers tournament of champions: Leading final scores: 144: M Peet (Pyle and Kenfig) 72, 72. 148: A Ingram (Cardiff) 71, 75. 147: L Bannister (Cradoc) 73, 74. 148: K Sullivan (Brynmill) 74, 74. 150: R Mallphant (Monmouth) 76, 74. 152: N Ralph (Creigiau) 75, 77. 153: C Jones (West Monmouthshire) 74, 79.

HOCKEY

CAGLIARI, Italy: World Cup preliminary round: Group A: New Zealand 2 Canada 2; Switzerland 1 Wales 0. Group B: Poland 1 Kenya 1; Ireland 2 Scotland 1. Italy 3 Bangladesh 4

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cannock 5 Havant 1, East Grinstead 3 Southgate 4; Guildford 4 Barford Tigers 6, Old Loughtonians 7 Hounslow 1, Reading 2 Canterbury 3; Teddington 3 Surbiton 4. First division: Hull 1 Harleston Magpies 1, Warrington 2 Gloucester City 1, Trojans 2 Firebrands 3; Stourport 7 Edgbaston 3, St Albans 3 Doncaster 3; Sheffield 4 City of Portsmouth 1; Oxford University 1 Brooklands 5, Oxford Hawks 2 Bromley 1, Lewes 1 Bournville 2; Isca 1 Bluehants 1; City of Ashford 4 Kent 1; Midlands: Aldridge 2 Bedford 0, North Staffordshire 1 Leicester 0. Pickwick 2 Kettering 4. South: Dulwich 2 Winchester 1, Horsham 2 Hampstead 0; Reading 2 City of Portsmouth 1, Southampton 1 Tulse Hill 1, Winchmore Hill 5 Worthing 1. West: Colwall 1 Bournemouth 0; Exeter 2 Yate 0; Leominster 1 St Austell 2; Redland 5 Wimborne 0. North: Carlisle 2 Poynton 5; Chester 0 Blackburn 5, Liverpool 0 Sheffield 1, York 2 Wilton 3

ICE HOCKEY

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Nottingham 0 Cardiff 1; Sheffield 6 Newcastle 3, Basingstoke 5 Bracknell 3

SUPERLEAGUE: Slough 7 Medway 1, Swindon 8 Kingston 0; Telford 5 Guildford 3

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY: North of England: Premier division: Moorthorpe 5 Boardmen and Eccles 12; Cheadle 10 Heaton Mersey 7, Old Waconians 18 Poynton 5, Cheadle Hulme 1 Stockport 18; Mellor 16 Timperley 5.

MOTSPUR PARK: Surrey clubs and colleges tournament: Final: Centaurs 6 Purley 0

PINNER: Women's Middlesex clubs and colleges tournament: 1, West London; 2, Putney I, 3 equal, Putney II and Rosemeadians and Hatch End.

RIFLE SHOOTING

SENNELAGER: Goodwill Tour: Teasdale Cup: Selected results (500m): 1, A Seeman (Germany) 49 7; 3, H Place (N London "Grippers") 49 7. (600m): 1, Seeman 49 5; 3, N Cole-Hawkins (Grippers) 49.5. (800m): 1, Seeman 50 7, 4, Cole-Hawkins 50 4. Aggregate: 1, Seeman 148 19; 3, Cole Hawkins 145 14. Fulton Trophy (800 and 900m): 1, U Soltzer (Ger) 99 14; 3, M Wrigley (Grippers). Fulton Teams Trophy (Seven shots, 800 and 900 yds): 1, Grippers 264 18 (Wrigley 68.7). 2, Holland 259.24; 3, Germany B 256.16

BISLEY: London and Middlesex RA championships: President's Prize (Queen's I): 1, S Penrose (LMRA) 104 18; 2, R Lomar (Herts) 104 13; 3, D Lloyd (Ruslip) 104 10. Elizabethan Prize (Queen's II): 1, C Sutherland (LMRA) 150.21; 2, P Medhurst (LMRA) 150 17; 3, P Kent (Old Epsomian) 148.23. Colin Brook Trophy (Saturday aggregate): 1, Sutherland 253.36; 2, Penrose 252.41, 3, Lloyd 251.28. Malcolm Grand Aggregate (overall championship): 1, P Kent (Old Epsomians) 537.59; 2, S Penrose (LMRA) 534.63; 3, D Lloyd (Ruslip) 532.56. Green Jackets Cup (300 and 600 yds): 1, J Saunders (LMRA) 148.21; 2, C Swithenbank 0 Olton 4, Chelmsford Broadoak 0 Canterbury 2, Sunderland Bedons 1 Wimbledon 2

WOMEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES: East: Bexleyheath 3 Bury St Edmunds 1, Harleston Magpies 1 Cambridge City 0 Ipswich 11 1, Sevenoaks 2 Welwyn Garden City 1 Ashford (Kent) 1. Midlands: Aldridge 2 Bedford 0, North Staffordshire 1 Leicester 0. Pickwick 2 Kettering 4. South: Dulwich 2 Winchester 1, Horsham 2 Hampstead 0; Reading 2 City of Portsmouth 1, Southampton 1 Tulse Hill 1, Winchmore Hill 5 Worthing 1. West: Colwall 1 Bournemouth 0; Exeter 2 Yate 0; Leominster 1 St Austell 2; Redland 5 Wimborne 0. North: Carlisle 2 Poynton 5; Chester 0 Blackburn 5, Liverpool 0 Sheffield 1, York 2 Wilton 3

SAILING

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE (race order at 17.30 BST and miles to Rio de Janeiro): 1, Group 4 4,996 2, Save The Children 4,998, 3 Courtaulds 4,998 4, Nuclear Electric 4,998, 5, 3Com 4,998; 6, Ocean Rover 4,999, 7, Toshiba 4,999, 8, Heath Insured II 4,999; 9, Motorola 4,999, 10, Commercial Union 4,999 11, Concert 5,000. 12, Pause To Remember 5,000. 13, Time & Tide 5,000; 14, Global Teamwork 5,000

SNOOKER

MOTHERWELL: Regal Masters: Semi-finals: P Ebdon (Eng) bt J Higgins (Scot) 6-5, A McManus (Scot) bt J Parrott (Eng) 6-1. Final: Ebdon leads McManus 4-3

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Coventry 45 London 51; Swindon 52 Poole 44; Bradford 43 Long Eaton 29

SPEEDWAY STAR KNOCK-OUT CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Bradford 54 Wolverhampton 42 (Wolverhampton win 101-91 on aggregate)

CHALLENGE MATCH: Linlithgow 41 Belle Vue Colts 36.

CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Berwick 42 Buxton 36

SQUASH

BRADFORD: Yorkshire Championships: Semi-finals: Men: L Beechal bt D Campion 5-9, 6-9, 9-2, 10-8, 10-9. M Berrett bt G Lechemmant 9-2, 9-3, 9-2. Women: J Thacker bt E Parke 9-6, 9-1, 9-4. C Fleetwood bt K Allison 9-3, 9-2, 6-9, 9-2

TABLE TENNIS

HONG KONG: Women's World Cup: Quarter-finals: D Yaping (China) bt J J Hong (Sing) 21-14, 21-18, 21-12. M Svensson (Swe) bt N X Lian (Lux) 21-19, 21-13, 19-21, 15-21, 21-19; Y Ying (China) bt C Tan-lui (HK) 21-10, 21-17, 17-21, 21-13; W Chen (China) bt C Po-wa (HK) 21-19, 21-17, 21-18

TENNIS

ATLANTIC CITY: Fed Cup: Final: United States lead Spain 3-0 (United States names first: M Seles bt C Martinez 6-2, 6-4; L Davenport bt A Sánchez Vicario 7-5, 6-1. Seles bt Sanchez Vicario 3-6, 6-3, 6-1)

BASLE: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: J Novak (Cz) bt O Delaitre (Fr) 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; P Sampras (US) bt M Tillstrom (Swe) 6-3, 6-4. Semi-finals: H Dreekman (Ger) bt J Novak (Cz) 7-5, 6-4, P Sampras (US) bt Y Kaleinikov (Russ) 7-6, 6-3. Final: Sampras bt Dreekman 7-5, 6-2, 6-0

PALERMO: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: K Alami (Mor) bt M Martelli (It) 6-3, 1-6, 6-2; A Voinea (Rom) bt J van Herck (Bel) 6-3, 6-2. Final: Alami bt Voinea 7-5, 2-1 rtd

TELFORD: LTA satellite tournament: Men: Semi-finals: C Wilkinson (GB) bt A Parmer (GB) 6-3, 6-2; J Fox (GB) bt R Koenig (SA) 6-2, 6-2. Final: Wilkinson bt Fox 6-4, 6-3. Women: Semi-finals: I. Ahl (GB) bt N Egorova (Russ) 6-2, 3-6, 6-2; J Pullin (GB) bt H van Askderen (Holl) 6-2, 6-3. Final: Ahl bt Pullin 6-3, 6-7, 6-4

WTA RANKINGS: 1, S Graf (Ger) and M Seles (US) 326 92pts; 2, A Sanchez (Sp) 223 65; 3, C Martinez (Sp) 193.58, 4, I Majoli (Cro) 185.31; 5, A Huber (Ger) 153 00; 6, L Davenport (US) 141.77; 7, K Date (Japan) 141.36; 8, J Novotna (Cz) 135.88, 9, M J Fernandez (US) 122.06, 10, C Rubin (US) 107 09, 11, M Hingis (Switz) 103 80; 12, M Maleeva (Bul) 103.05, 13, B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) 93 85; 14, B Paulus (Austria) 93 10; 15, M Pierce (Fr) 90 64, 16, A Coetzer (SA) 88.60; 17, J Halard (Fr) 79 17, 18, K Habsudova (Slovakia) 77 87

TRIATHLON

HONOLULU: International Grand Prix: First race: 1, A Johns (Aus) 25min 4sec, 2, C Hill (Aus) 25 06; 3, B Bright (Aus) 25 08. British: 11, S Lessing 25 43; 18, S Smith 26 36. Second race: 1, B Sanson (Fr) 25 40; 2, B Bevan (Aus) 25 41, 3, W Hobson (US) 25 42. British: 6, Smith 25.55, 12, Lessing 26 31. Third race: 1, Smith 25.24; 2, Bevan 25 34; 3, H Carter (NZ) 25 38. Final standings: 1, Bevan 85pts, 2, Hill 82; 3, Carter 81; 8, Smith 68

RUGBY UNION

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Bath	48	West Hartlepool	10

Bath: Tries: Sleightholme 2, A Robinson, Adams, Adebayo, de Glanville. Cons: Callard 5. Pens: Callard 2. West Hartlepool: Try: S John. Con: Silva. Pen: C John

Leicester	32	Gloucester	14

Leicester: Tries: Cockerill, Hackney, Underwood, penalty try. Cons: J Liley 3. Pens: J Liley 2. Gloucester: Try: Anderson. Pens: Mapletoft 3.

London Irish	23	Saracens	37

London Irish: Tries: Woods, penalty try. Cons: Humphreys 2. Pens: Humphreys 3. Saracens: Tries: Ebongalame, Hill, Johns, R Wallace, Ravenscroft. Cons: Tunningley 2, Lee. Pen: Tunningley. Dropped goal: Lee

Northampton	15	Harlequins	20

Northampton: Tries: Beal, Bell. Con: Grayson. Pen: Grayson. Harlequins: Tries: Carling, Hames, Staples. Con: Carling. Pen: Carling

Orrell	27	Wasps	44

Orrell: Tries: Bennett, Heslop, Lyon, Naylor. Cons: Street 2. Pen: Street. Wasps: Tries: Rosser 2, Scrase 2, Sheasby, Tuigamala. Cons: Rees 4. Pens: Rees 2

Sale	31	Bristol	33

Sale: Tries: A Morris, Mallinder, Ryan, penalty try. Con: Stocks. Pens: Stocks 3. Bristol: Tries: Tuesti 2, Burke, Regan. Cons: Burke 2. Pens: Burke 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Harlequins	5	5	0	0	237	86	10
Wasps	5	5	0	0	167	122	10
Bath	5	3	0	2	208	120	6
Northampton	5	3	0	2	152	102	6
Sale	5	3	0	2	161	115	6
Leicester	5	3	0	2	119	90	6
Saracens	5	3	0	2	140	118	6
Bristol	5	3	0	2	144	132	6
London Irish	5	1	0	4	110	177	2
W Hartlepool	5	1	0	4	94	207	2
Gloucester	5	0	0	5	85	209	0
Orrell	5	0	0	5	69	208	0

LEADING SCORERS: 91: G Rees (Wasps: 1 try, 11 conversions, 18 penalty goals) 80: J Callard (Bath, 1t, 15c, 15pg) 69: J Liley (Leicester: 1t, 8c, 16pg) 60: P Burke (Bristol; 1t, 8c, 13pg). 57: D Humphreys (London Irish: 6c, 13pg, 2 dropped goals). 55: W Carling (Harlequins, 1t, 19c, 4pg) Tries: 6: J Bell (Northampton), D O'Leary (Harlequins) 5: S John (West Hartlepool), J Staples (Harlequins). 4: M Catt (Bath), A Nicol (Bath).

Second division

Blackheath	28	Moseley	3

Blackheath: Tries: Friday, Hanslip, Watton. Cons: Braithwaite 2. Pens: Braithwaite 3. Moseley: Pen: Dossett

Nottingham	12	London Scottish	26

Nottingham: Pens: N Carroll 3, Hodgkinson. London Scottish: Tries: Duthie, Eriksson. Cons: Steele 2. Pens: Steele 3. Dropped goal: Steele

Richmond	20	Newcastle	20

Richmond: Tries: S Gunnell, penalty try. Cons: Mason 2. Pen: Mason. Dropped goal: Davies. Newcastle: Tries: Armstrong, Underwood. Cons: Andrew 2. Pens: Andrew 2

Wakefield	25	Rotherham	29

Wakefield: Tries: Massey, Petyt, Scully. Cons: Scully 2. Pens: Scully 2. Rotherham: Tries: Burnhill, Mills, Heaslegrave. Con: Inman. Pens: Inman 4

Waterloo	17	Coventry	36

Waterloo: Tries: Hayton, Hucker. Cons: Handley 2. Pen: Handley. Coventry: Tries: Eves, Ilsford, McAdam, Smallwood. Cons: Harris 2. Pens: Harris 4

Yesterday

Rugby	6	Bedford	34

Rugby: Pens: Quantrill 2. Bedford: Tries: Crossland, Hewitt, Paramore, Pechey 2. Cons: Rayer 3. Pen: Rayer

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
L Scottish	4	4	0	0	141	76	8
Newcastle	4	3	1	0	185	82	7
Richmond	4	2	2	0	144	91	6
Blackheath	4	3	0	1	83	72	6
Coventry	4	2	1	1	137	61	5
Bedford	4	2	0	2	95	84	4
Wakefield	4	2	0	2	107	100	4
Rotherham	4	2	0	2	121	151	4
Moseley	4	1	0	3	67	100	2
Waterloo	4	1	0	3	80	121	2
Nottingham	4	0	0	4	86	175	0
Rugby	4	0	0	4	34	187	0

LEADING SCORERS: 78: J Steele (London Scottish, 1 try, 13 conversions, 14 penalty goals, 1 dropped goal) 56: S Meson (Richmond, 2t, 14c, 6pg). 55: R Andrew (Newcastle, 2t, 15c, 5pg) 51: M Inman (Rotherham, 6c, 13pg) 43: C Braithwaite (Blackheath, 1t, 7c, 7pg, 1dgl) 40: G Armstrong (Newcastle, 8t); D Scully (Wakefield, 3t, 5c, 5pg) Tries: 8: Armstrong 4; S Quinnell (Richmond)

Third division

Clifton	23	Liverpool St H	16

Clifton: Tries: Buckingham, Johnson. Cons: Cadey 2. Pens: Cadey 3. Liverpool St Helens: Tries: Graham, Stephton. Pens: Humphreys 2.

Fylde	44	Havant	17

Fylde: Tries: Anderton 2, Lavin, O'Toole, Parker, Preston. Cons: Gough 4. Pens: Gough 2. Havant: Tries: Jones, penalty try. Cons: Ashworth 2. Pen: Ashworth.

Leeds	33	Exeter	24

Leeds: Tries: Ainscough, Appleson, Bantoft, Johnson. Cons: Ainscough 2. Pens: Ainscough 3. Exeter: Tries: Turner 2, Maunder, Doyle. Cons: Stewart 2.

London Welsh	16	Wharfedale	25

London Welsh: Tries: Giraud, Jones. Pens: Raymond 2. Wharfedale: Tries: Peel, Rodgers, Walker. Cons: A Howarth 2. Pens: A Howarth 2.

Lydney	34	Rosslyn Park	13

Lydney: Tries: Stubbs 2, Edwards, Knox, Williams. Cons: Morris 3. Pen: Morris. Rosslyn Park: Tries: Henderson 2. Pen: Dowse

Morley	37	Otley	13

Morley: Tries: Graham, Holdsworth, Naivalurua, Shepherd, Yule. Cons: Peacock 3. Pens: Peacock 2. Otley: Try: A Hargreaves. Con: Rutledge. Pens: Rutledge 2

Redruth	20	Reading	14

Redruth: Tries: Hawken, Whitworth. Cons: Morgan 2. Pens: Morgan 2. Reading: Try: Harris. Pens: Belshaw 3

Walsall	27	Harrogate	19

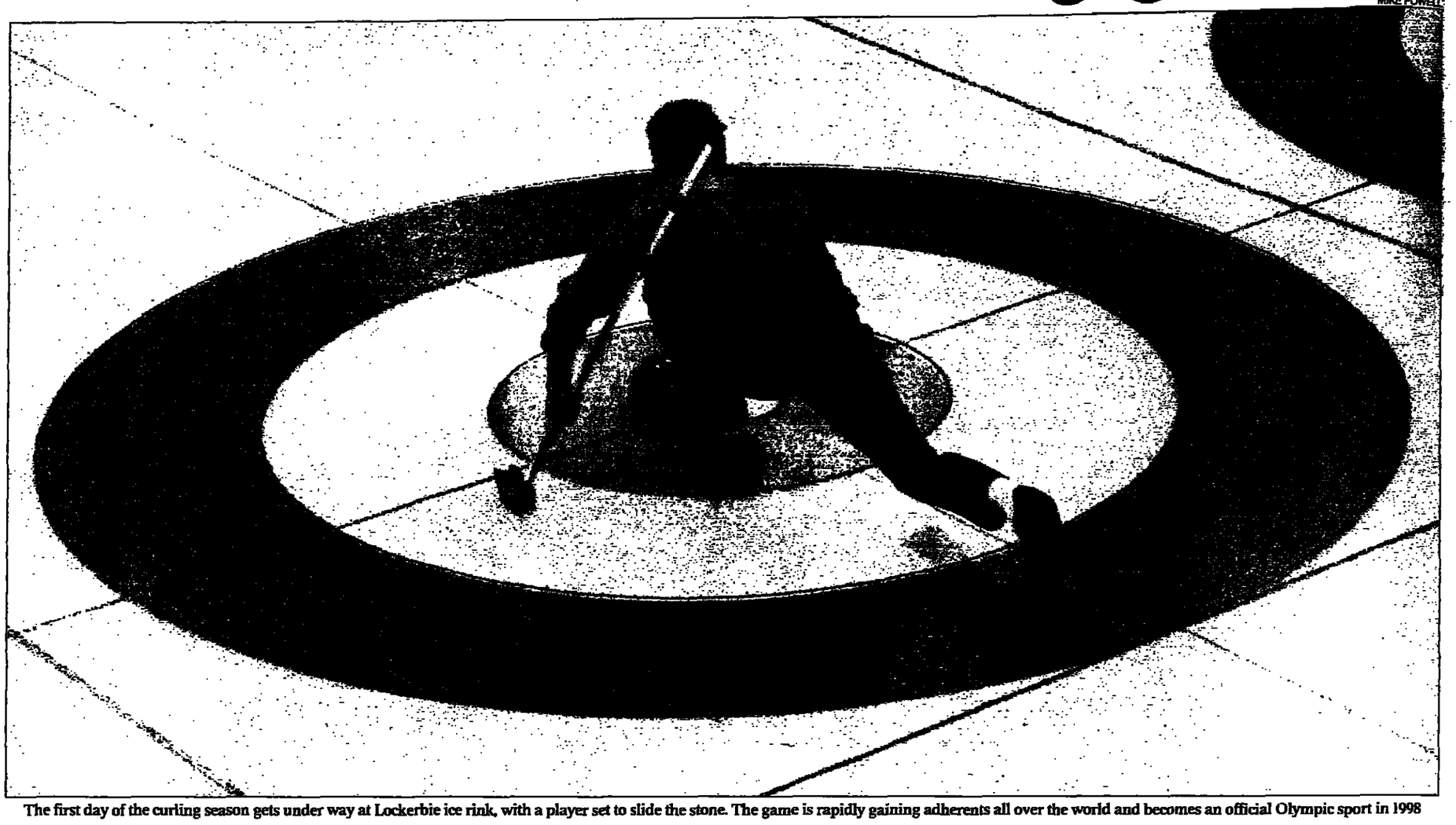
Walsall: Tries: Rowe, Till. Con: Mills. Pens: Mills 5. Harrogate: Tries: S Easterby, Whiley. Pens: Dixon 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fylde	5	5	0	0	184	77	10
Exeter	5	4	0	1	157	74	8
Leeds	5	4	0	1	155	87	8
Lydney	5	4	0	1	134	100	8
Morley	5	3	0	2	158	71	6
Wharfedale	5	3	0	2	117	105	6
Redruth	5	3	0	2	107	112	6
Harrogate	5	2	0	3	105	117	4
London Welsh	5	2	0	3	71	90	4
Otley	5	2	0	3	111	137	4
Walsall	5	2	0	3	103	133	4
Rosslyn Park	5

Christian Dymond on a sport associated with North of the Border which is set to gain Olympic status

Ice-cold skills in the roaring game

MIKE POWELL



The first day of the curling season gets under way at Lockerbie ice rink, with a player set to slide the stone. The game is rapidly gaining adherents all over the world and becomes an official Olympic sport in 1998

Stand on a Tube station and listen to a train coming from a quarter of a mile away. What you can hear is both London Underground at work and a sound akin to curling: 42lbs of granite in the shape of a round Dutch cheese gliding down a sheet of ice. Not for nothing is the sport known as the roaring game.

Long associated with Scotland, curling has nonetheless travelled the world. It is particularly big in Canada, is played in Japan and has come south to England and Wales.

In Scotland there are 648 clubs affiliated to the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, whose object is "to unite curlers throughout the world into one brotherhood of the rink". In 1998 at the Winter Olympics in Japan, curling will become an official Olympic sport.

SPORT FOR ALL

The new season has just started, so I went to the South of Scotland Ice Rink at Lockerbie, where 65 hours each week until April will be set aside for curling. People have brought their brushes, or brooms to strike the stone, but are not allowed to bring their own stones.

"It's because stones have to be as cold as the ice, which is minus two degrees centigrade. If warmer, they'll make a saucer shape in the ice and won't run properly," says veteran curler Sandy Smith. Anyway, stones are very expensive.

Three years ago the ice rink spent £28,000 on 80 stones for the club. Help came from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts. The ones they replaced had been in use since 1967. They had been turned over to give them a longer life. The best granite for curling stones, I am told comes from Ailsa Craig, in the Firth of Clyde.

Curling generally involves two teams of four players, taking it in turns to slide the stone almost 40 metres down a sheet of ice towards the house. The sheet is a lane, a minimum of 4.75 metres wide and the house is a series of concentric circles near the end of the rink.

Each member of the team has two stones to curl. A team scores one point for each stone finishing nearer the centre of the house, the button, than any belonging to their opponents. Once all 16 stones have been dispatched from one end, you swap ends. A game usually consists of ten "ends".

Of course, opponents can knock your stone out of the way during a game, or slide one short to act as a guard. Then there is the added factor that the stone itself moves down the ice with a slight bias.

I ask why it cannot go straight. "Because it would be a pretty boring game if it did," says Liz Smith, a director of the 1,000-member ice rink club and a player for nearly 30 years. The appeal for her is the companionship and the competitive nature of the sport.

Despite the competitiveness, it is considered extremely bad manners if you don't shake the opposition's hands at the end of a game.

Every team has a skip. They are the the ones who call the shots and at the start of each "end" will stand near the house and tell their team what to aim for. This is done both verbally and with signs made with the brush.

The first member of the team to deliver a stone is the lead, followed by the lead from the other team. Skips from each side are often the last to go. Some players will no doubt have little quirks of delivery, but there seems a fairly uniform action.

If you are right-handed, take the stone by the handle in that hand, give a little polish to the bottom side to remove any dirt or hairs from brushes or even wool from jumpers, put your right foot in what looks like a starting block and with your left leg in a bending position, launch yourself forward.

The sole of the right shoe in this case has a grip, that of the left shoe is slightly slippery. Curling shoes can be expensive but you can use trainers with special soles.



With play under way, team members polish the ice to make the stone go further

Before you reach a line called the hog line you must have released the curling stone. Then, if the skip commands, the polishing starts. This is feverish activity conducted with the brush just ahead of the stone by one or two of your colleagues.

The idea is to facilitate the stone's progress. It does not speed the stone up but it does make it travel further. When the skip says so the polishing stops. There is a useful adjunct to this activity. It means that the two players not directly engaged in either playing the stone or giving the orders can still play a vital role.

At the end of the first game of the evening a man with a small water tank on his back and a sprayer in his hand comes on to the ice. Walking backwards, he sprays down the centre line of each of the five sheets.

"The drops of water will freeze immediately and create thousands of tiny pimples or pebbles on the ice. It is these which the curling stone rides over. If the ice was completely flat you would need much more effort to play the stones," says Mr Smith.

Kenneth Edwards, 14, is in one of the second games of the evening. He's been curling for nearly six years and has about four games a week. His mother Margaret and brother David curl, too. Large numbers of youngsters are involved in the sport and those at Lockerbie have a better record than most.

Four of its junior boys represented Scotland and won the World Junior Curling Championship in 1993 in Switzerland. Two Lockerbie boys were also in the 1995 and 1996 teams which won the championship.

Like most other ice rinks, Lockerbie has coaching facilities available for beginners. Curlers start young. Those aged 8-12 use smaller stones and are known as mini-rockers. The term "old rocker", however, does not apply to those of more mature years.



A player follows the highly-expensive granite stone as it "roars" its way down the ice

WHAT TO WEAR - WHAT IT COSTS

● YOU can wear your own clothes curling but close fitting trousers are not so favoured because of the actions involved in delivering the stone and polishing the ice. Curling trousers — something akin to tracksuit bottoms — cost about £30. Curlers often wear their own club jumpers.

● CURLING gloves — a bit like golfing gloves — can be worn (Prices £16 to £20) so you can grip the stone more comfortably and avoid blisters on the hand from polishing. They also keep your hands warm. Brushes cost from £30 to £50.

● SOME people wear a knee protector (about £4) on the knee that is touching the ice when they deliver the stone. Curling shoes go from £60 to £150. If you wear ordinary trainers and just want a slip-over sole for the one shoe (the left shoe if you are right handed and have the right foot in the hack), the price is £16 to £20. Clubs have curling stones at their rinks because of the need to keep them at the right temperature.



A player assesses the state of play during a match. Each of the granite stones moves down the ice with a slight bias

FACT BOX

THE Royal Caledonian Curling Club is at Cairnie House, Ingliston, Edinburgh EH28 2NB. Tel: 0131-333 3003. The secretary is Duthie Thomson.

The South of Scotland Ice Rink is at Lockerbie: Tel: 01576-202197.

The Multi Sponsorship Invitation Tournament is at the South of Scotland Ice Rink, from October 11 to 13. The Macallan European Playdowns are at The Summit Centre, Glasgow, October 17 to 20. Tel: 0141-204 2215.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Today's hand was played in the BBL Pairs in July. South misbid his hand, but West had to defend well to punish him.

Dealer South **Love all** **Match-pointed pairs**

	♠642 ♥KJ103 ♦1076 ♣J42	
♠753 ♥A987 ♦QJ9 ♣1097	N W E S	♠QJ109 ♥6542 ♦A32 ♣53
	♠AK8 ♥Q ♦K854 ♣AKQ86	

S	W	N	E
1 C	Pass	1 H	Pass
2 D	Pass	3 C	Pass
3 S	Pass	4 C	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 C	All Pass

Contract: Five Clubs by South. Lead: five of spades

South made three poor bids. After the response of One Heart to his opening One Club, it was clear to rebid 3 NT. If his partner insisted on going back to hearts, singleton queen would be at least as useful as a small doubleton. When North preferred to bid Three Clubs over South's Two Diamonds, about the weakest bid he could make, again South should have bid 3 NT. His bid of Three Spades should be played as enquiring about his partner's spade holding for No-Trump purposes. As he held the suit strongly it was his duty to go 3 NT. Finally 4 NT (Blackwood) by South was an overstatement: all North had done was sign off, so even if he had an ace there would still be too many holes to make Six Clubs a good contract.

South won the spade lead, drew two rounds of trumps and played the queen of hearts. If, as West, you knew that was declarer's only heart, what would you do? It is still correct to duck. If you take it, declarer makes two spade and three heart tricks, a diamond and five clubs. If you duck, declarer only gets one heart trick, and goes off (even if he overtakes with dummy's king and then plays the jack he will only make two heart tricks).

The declarers in 3 NT had an easier time. After a spade lead they could play the queen of hearts and overtake with the king, and then continue with the jack. That gave them two tricks in spades, two in hearts and five in clubs.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

OCCULTATION
a. Dusk
b. Economy with the truth
c. Being hidden

FARCEUR
a. A humourist
b. A type of pastry
c. A French archer

GODWIT
a. Theology
b. A blasphemous ejaculation
c. A bird

TRILEMMA
a. A logical proposition
b. A triple dilemma
c. A choriambic metre

Answers on page 45

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Chess and sport

Recent statistics show that 124 governments around the world officially recognise tournament chess as a sport. A recent study by Dr Christian Hollinsky, in Vienna, who subjected chess players under tournament conditions to physical and psychometric tests, measuring heart rate, blood pressure, stress and so on indicates that chess players show greater signs of physical activity during a competition game than do competitors in many standard sports.

Dr Hollinsky's study demonstrated that chess players who were in good physical condition, even those of advanced age are better able to withstand the physical pressures of tournament chess. During a tournament game the heart rate of chess players is comparable to that of cyclists while adrenalin levels in chess can be even greater than those in both cycling and football.

Adams win

In the tenth round, England drew 2-2 with Armenia. Stuart Conquest lost his game but Michael Adams redressed the balance with this victory.

White: Rafael Vaganian
Black: Michael Adams

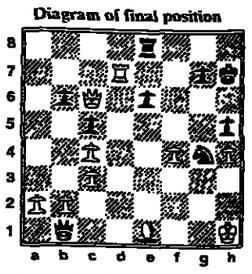
Erevan Olympiad, September 1996

English Opening

1	Nf3	Nf6
2	c4	b6
3	g3	c5
4	Bg2	Bb7
5	0-0	e6
6	Nc3	Be7
7	Re1	Ne4
8	Oc2	Nxc3
9	dxc3	Qc7
10	Bf4	d6
11	Rad1	Nc6
12	Ng5	Bxg5
13	Bxg5	h6
14	Bc1	0-0
15	e4	Rad8
16	f4	f6
17	Re3	Qe7
18	h4	Rd7
19	Bh3	Qf7
20	Qe2	Ne7
21	Kh2	f5
22	exf5	Nxf5
23	Red3	h5
24	Rxd6	Rxd6
25	Rxd6	Re8
26	Rd3	Qg6
27	Bd2	Nh6
28	Rd7	Be4
29	Bg2	Ng4+
30	Kg1	Nf6
31	Rxa7	Qxg3
32	Be1	Qg6
33	Kh1	Bxg2+
34	Qxg2	Ng4
35	Qc6	Kh7
36	Rd7	Qb1

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Olympiad update

With two rounds to go in the Chess Olympiad, both the England men's and women's teams still have chances for the silver medals. In the men's event Russia leads with 31 points. In the eleventh round England beat Sweden. In the women's event Georgia has a firm grip on the lead with 24½ points with six teams in the chasing pack, of which England is one. In the eleventh round England drew 1½-1½ with Georgia.

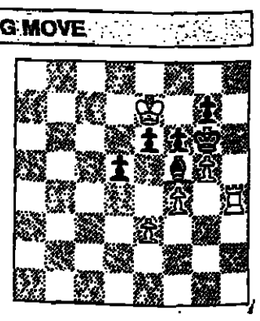
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Nasarkin — Dewin, USSR 1981. There is a well-known maxim in chess that the king is a strong piece. In this ending White has penetrated through to e7 with his king in an attempt to prove this. How did he now succeed?

Solution on page 45



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Underdogs Mayo thwarted as Gaelic football's replayed final follows familiar script

Grand occasion to celebrate all Ireland

SIMON BARNES



At Croke Park

They told me that the windy weather would make it more physical than usual. Next thing, they will tell me that Guinness is more black than usual, as if you really could get a darker shade of pitch.

But when Mayo took on Meath in the replay of the All-Ireland football final in Dublin yesterday, it was always going to be one of life's more titanic afternoons. Gaelic football is not one of those disciplines that encourages a cold-blooded standoffishness in its participants.

And after the first and drawn final of a fortnight back, there were a few scores to settle. Sure enough, most of them were settled within the first two minutes when the players set about each other with undisguised fervour. Perhaps 20 of the 30 players on the pitch got seriously stuck into each other. Old accounts were closed, and new ones opened. But two men were sent off and battle proper could be joined again.

Before I go any further, I must point out that the game is not a punch-up with a ball as occasional distraction. Gaelic football is about skill and courage. The prime discipline is keeping your eye on the ball, despite the murderous attentions of the opposition.

The game revolves around nerve and appetite under the high ball. Where a full back in both codes of rugby is thus tested half a dozen times in a match, so the players of Gaelic football are tested with almost every kick: for this is the very nub of the game.

'It cannot help but be a fearsome and compelling spectacle'

It cannot help but be a fearsome and compelling spectacle. Yet Gaelic football, and its sister sport, hurling, are seen in England as little more than jokes. How the merry Irish love to beat seven bells out of each other.

I have heard it all before, of course. You try talking to Americans about cricket or soccer. Sport tends to bring out the insularity, as well as the chauvinism, in the people who play it and watch it.

And that, of course, is rather the point of Gaelic sport. The English have always had a profoundly split understanding of the Irish: they are either unutterably evil or a bunch of leprechauns.

Gaelic sports have always been regarded in England as just another piece of paddywhackery, perhaps the most perfect example. This is not so much to miss the point as to have it upside down. The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) was founded as a calculated affront to the British Empire. "The formation and early history of the GAA is arguably the most striking instance of politics shaping sport in modern history; it is certainly the outstanding example of the appropriation of sport by nationalism in the history of the British Isles and empire." So wrote Richard Holt in his classic of sporting history, *Sport and the British*.

This was so much the case that anyone who played other sports was banned from the GAA. Members of the Irish constabulary and of the Dublin police were automatically forbidden from taking part in all Gaelic sports.

The political dimension of the GAA is made clear in Joyce's *Ulysses*: the saloon bar ranter, named as the Citizen, is based on Michael Cusack, a founding member of the GAA. Joyce describes this self-appointed epitome of all Ireland's most manly virtues: "Broad shouldered big chested strong limbed frank eyed red haired freely freckled shaggy bearded wide mouthed large nosed long headed deep voiced bare kneed brawny handed hairy legged ruddy faced sinewy armed hero."

Some sports spread all over the world, but not the Gaelic ones. The whole point of them was to keep them Irish. They are a celebration of both nation and nationalism. C. L. R. James, the Trinidadian Marxist and cricket writer, is most often quoted for the line that is the cornerstone of his work: "What do they know of cricket, who only cricket know?" But no one involved in Gaelic sports would dream of thinking that sport could ever only be about sport. Thus, as we move to the 109th All-Ireland final, we find that this truth, like the game's physicality, is more true than usual. Gaelic sports are bigger than ever: recruitment is fertile and audiences, particularly television audiences, are growing.



A Meath attack comes to nothing in the All-Ireland final replay against Mayo yesterday. Photograph: Tony Maxwell

The All-Ireland final is no living fossil: it is a vibrant occasion, with the brave sight of terraces crowned by banners held astiff by the sharpening wind. It was contested and roared on with contagious passion. It was an occasion that underlined the unique nature of the sport and the universal nature of sporting archetypes.

For what we had was an underdog afternoon. One of sport's eternal verities is that if the underdog gets half a chance, he had better take it — because there will not be another. And Mayo had their chance in the first final, and they blew it. "They had prepared for everything except how to deal with a six-point lead," I was told.

Meath had the big guns; surely they would prevail this time. But no: Mayo soared into the lead, and began to control the match. And then, of course, they blew it all over again. It was heart-rending stuff: a series of foolish individual mistakes and still more foolish collective decision-making undid them.

Naturally, I cheered for the underdog and, naturally, I felt the usual pleasurable pain. It is part of the common stuff of sport, after all. If you have sporting blood in your veins, you cannot attend any of sport's grand occasions — and this was unquestionably one of them — without responding.

That is why the traditional English disdain of these sports rather bothers me. You can make jokes about hurling being the only game in which competitors are armed with an unambiguous cudgel, but then the GAA itself always like to see the hurley as a weapon to drive out the British.

What it comes down to is the act of trivialising your enemy. When in doubt, make him ludicrous. To turn something into a joke is a kind of tribute of fear. But sporting blood does allow you to rise above such things. A grand occasion. I wondered if it is possible to get a drink around here?

Last-minute point by Rielly gives Meath title

Meath 2-9
Mayo 1-11

FROM MARTIN BREHENY IN DUBLIN

A LAST-MINUTE point by Brendan Rielly earned Meath a dramatic victory over Mayo in the All-Ireland Senior Football Final replay in front of 65,802 spectators at Croke Park yesterday.

It was a heartbreaking end for Mayo, who were bidding to win the title for the first time since 1951. They led by six points two minutes before half-time but were worn down by a typical Meath revival, which brought them the crown for the first time since 1988.

In a high-tension encounter, marred by strong winds, both teams had a player sent off. The game was just eight minutes old when the Mayo midfielder, Liam McHale, and the Meath wing back, Colm Coyle, were dismissed after a brawl involving at least 20 players. Six others were booked.

Mayo had first use of the wind and, with James Horan and Maurice Sheridan in excellent scoring form, they led by 0-5 to 0-2 after 30 minutes. Three minutes later, the substitute, P J Loftus, scored a great goal for Mayo, but a penalty goal by Trevor Giles brought Meath back into contention, with Mayo leading 1-6 to 1-2 at half-time.

Meath made a brisk opening to the second half, scoring three points in the first five minutes. Mayo responded with two points which put them three clear by the 47th minute. They worked hard to hold onto their advantage and were two points ahead entering the final ten minutes.

Then disaster struck for Mayo. Meath's Graham Geraghty was fouled, took a quick free and put his captain Tommy Dowd in for a goal which put Meath ahead by a point.

James Horan equalised six minutes from the end and, while both sides had good scoring chances, in the closing five minutes, the only player on target was Rielly.

SCORERS: Meath: T Giles 1-4, T Dowd 1-3, B Callaghan 0-1, B Rielly 0-1. Mayo: J Horan 0-5, M Sheridan 0-5, P J Loftus 1-0, J Casey 0-1.

MEATH: C Martin, M O'Reilly, D Fay, M O'Connell, C Coyle, E McManus, P Reynolds, J McGurness, J McDermott, T Giles, T Dowd, G Geraghty, C Brady, B Rielly (sub: O Murphy), B Callaghan (sub: J Devine)

MAYO: J Madden, K Mortimer, K Cahill, D Flanaghan (sub: P Fallon), P Holmes, J Nallen, N Connelly, L McHale, D Brady, J Horan, C McManamon, M Sheridan, A Finnerty (sub: T Rielly), J Casey, R Dempsey (sub: P J Loftus)
Referee: P McEnaney.

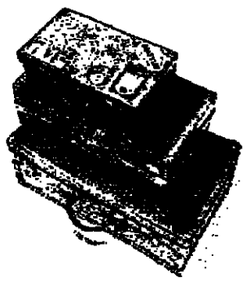
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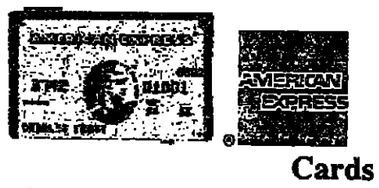
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European Law Report

Luxembourg

UK fails to fulfil EC duty in applying broadcasting controls

Commission of the European Communities (supported by French Republic, intervener) v United Kingdom

Case C-222/94

Before G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias, President and Judges C. N. Kakouris, D. A. O. Edward, J.-P. Puissochet, G. Hirsch, G. F. Mancini, J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, P. J. G. Kapteyn, C. Gulmann, J. L. Murray, P. Jann, H. Ragnemalm and L. Sevon

Advocate General C. O. Lenz

(Opinion April 30)

[Judgment September 10]

In applying, by the Broadcasting Act 1990, different regimes to domestic and non-domestic satellite television services, and exercising control over certain broadcasts transmitted by broadcasters falling under the jurisdiction of other member states, the United Kingdom had failed to fulfil its obligations under a Community directive.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on an application by the Commission of the European Communities under article 169 of the EC Treaty for a declaration that the United Kingdom, by failing to implement correctly Council Directive 89/552/EEC of October 3, 1989 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in member states concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities (OJ 1989 L298 p23), had failed to fulfil its obligations under articles 2(1) and (2) and 3(2) of the directive.

The United Kingdom was charged with having failed to fulfil its obligations by:

(i) adopting, with respect to satellite broadcasts, the criteria set forth in section 43 of the 1990 Act for determining which satellite broadcasters fell under the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom, and, in the exercise of that jurisdiction, applying to non-domestic satellite services a different regime from that applicable to domestic satellite services, and

(ii) exercising control over broadcasts transmitted by a broadcaster falling under the jurisdiction of another member state when those broadcasts were transmitted by a non-domestic satellite service or conveyed to the public as, inter alia, a licensable programme service.

Article 2 of Directive 89/552 provides: "(1) Each member state shall ensure that all television broadcasts transmitted by broadcasters under its jurisdiction, or by broadcasters who, while not being under the jurisdiction of any member state, make use of a frequency or a satellite capacity granted by, or a satellite up-link situated in, that member state, comply with the law applicable to broadcasts intended for the public in that member state.

"(2) Member states shall ensure freedom of reception and shall not restrict retransmission on their territory of television broadcasts from other member states for reasons which fall within the fields coordinated by this directive. . ."

Article 3 provides: "(1) Member states shall remain free to require television broadcasters under their jurisdiction to lay down more detailed or stricter rules in the areas covered by this directive.

"(2) Member states shall, by appropriate means, ensure, within the framework of their legislation, that television broadcasters under their jurisdiction comply with the provisions of this directive."

In its judgment the European Court of Justice held:

Section 13 of the 1990 Act prohibited the provision of television programme services other than those of the BBC and the Welsh Authority unless authorised by or under a licence granted by the Independent Television Commission.

Section 43 drew a distinction between two categories of satellite television services, namely domestic and non-domestic, both of which were considered to be television programme services and for which a broadcasting licence was therefore required, and set out the criteria for determining which broadcasts were covered by the two categories.

By section 43(1), a domestic satellite service meant a television broadcasting service where the programmes included in the service were transmitted by satellite from a place in the United Kingdom on a frequency allocated to the United Kingdom and for general reception in the United Kingdom.

By section 43(2), a non-domestic satellite service meant a service consisting in transmission from a place in the United Kingdom for general reception in the United Kingdom or in a member state otherwise than on an allocated frequency, or from a place outside the United Kingdom or any member state for general reception in the United Kingdom or in a member state where the programme material was provided by a person in the United Kingdom who had editorial control over programming content.

Section 44(3) applied to domestic satellite services provisions of section 16(2) concerning conditions, laid down in articles 4 and 5 of the directive, relating to the programming of works of European origin, but section 45(2) did not do so with regard to non-domestic satellite services.

The Commission objected that section 43 did not comply with article 2(1) of the directive in four respects.

The first objection was that section 43 applied criteria other than that of establishment for determining which broadcasters fell within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom.

The Commission's position was that broadcasters under the jurisdiction of a member state were, for the purposes of article 2(1) of the directive, those established in the member state concerned, but the United Kingdom argued that the member state having jurisdiction within that article was that from whose territory the broadcast was transmitted.

If the only criterion were that of the place from which the broadcast was transmitted, the second indent of article 2(1) would be without substance.

Moreover, it was plain from the wording of article 2(1) that a broadcaster could not both be under the jurisdiction of a member state within the meaning of the first indent of that article and be in the situation envisaged by the second indent, which related only to broadcasters not falling under the jurisdiction of any member state.

The United Kingdom argued that the second indent referred to satellite broadcasting, so that the first indent of that provision referred to terrestrial broadcasting, but that argument presupposed that the word "jurisdiction" had a different meaning in each of the two indents.

The argument was untenable as, given that the second indent referred only to situations in which no other member state had the jurisdiction envisaged in the first indent, it presupposed that member states could, by virtue of the first indent, have jurisdiction in the cases covered by the second indent.

The purpose of article 2(1) was to make sure that a member state ensured that all television broadcasts made by broadcasters in relation to which it could assert the jurisdiction thereby conferred complied with the law applicable to broadcasts intended for the public in that member state, including, according to article 3(2), the provisions of the directive itself.

A member state's power to enforce compliance with its laws was a function of its jurisdiction in relation to activities carried on in its territory and, subsidiarily, over persons or, as the case might be, physical objects such as spacecraft, linked to that state, even though located outside its territory.

The second indent of article 2(1) referred to the situation in which a member state could assert either its jurisdiction in relation to the use of a satellite or its territorial jurisdiction in relation to the use of an up-link, situated in that state, to a satellite which did not fall under its jurisdiction.

However, the second indent envisaged the exercise of such jurisdiction only on condition that no other member state had jurisdiction under the first indent.

Member state B could have jurisdiction in the circumstances envisaged in the second indent only if, pursuant to the first indent, it could assert jurisdiction ratione personae over television broadcasters wishing to make use of (i) a frequency or the capacity of a satellite linked to member state A or (ii) an up-link, situated within member state A's territory, to a satellite not falling under the jurisdiction of member state A.

It followed that the concept of jurisdiction of a member state, used in the first indent of article 2(1), must be understood as necessarily covering jurisdiction ratione personae over television broadcasters.

That interpretation was borne out by the wording of the first indent of article 2(1) in that it referred to broadcasters as being under the jurisdiction of a member state without referring, in that context, to the place from which they transmitted their broadcasts.

A member state's jurisdiction ratione personae over a broadcaster could be based only on the broadcaster's connection to that state's legal system, which in substance overlapped with the concept of establishment as used in the first paragraph of article 59 of the EC Treaty, the wording of which presupposed that the supplier and the recipient of a service were established in two different member states.

The court then considered and rejected an argument by the United Kingdom based on article 5(2) of the Council of Europe Convention on Transfrontier Television of May 5, 1989.

Among further arguments advanced by the United Kingdom was that a broadcaster could be established in more than one member state and could thus be entitled to have the benefit of the provisions of the directive as regards transmissions both from the state in which it had its principal place of establishment and from the state in which it had its secondary place of establishment; there would therefore be a risk that more than one member state would have jurisdiction over the same broadcaster.

The criterion contended for by the United Kingdom might produce problems in the delimitation of jurisdiction which, in its view, could be resolved only through the conclusion of international agreements between the member states.

However, although the criterion of establishment could also give rise to difficulties, the Commission had stated, without being contradicted by the United Kingdom, that member states could find a solution to the problem of double control, without the necessity of further legislation, by interpreting the criterion of establishment as referring to the place in which a broadcaster had the centre of its activities, in particular the place where decisions concerning programme policy were taken and the programmes to be broadcast were finally put together.

For those and other reasons, the Commission's first objection was well founded, as was its second objection, that section 43 applied a criterion which was irrelevant for the purposes of jurisdiction, namely that of reception, as the court had already found that the criteria set out in section 43 of the Act were not in conformity with articles 2(1) and 3(2) of the directive.

The third objection was that the Act did not seek to ensure that broadcasts from non-member countries using a frequency allocated to the United Kingdom for general reception in another member state complied with the law applicable to broadcasts intended for the public in the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom submitted that there would be a breach of the second indent of article 2(1) of the directive only in the highly unrealistic event that it were to grant a frequency to a broadcaster from a non-member country without exercising control over its service.

Even though that might only be a hypothetical case, the United Kingdom did not deny that in that respect the Act was not in conformity with the directive, so that that objection also was well founded.

The fourth objection was that, besides being based on criteria other than that of the broadcaster's place of establishment, the distinction drawn in section 43 of the Act between domestic and non-domestic satellite services was not in accordance with article 2(1) in so far as section 43 made non-domestic services subject to a less stringent regime than domestic ones.

The question whether the United Kingdom had satisfied its obligations under articles 4 and 5 of the directive with regard to non-domestic satellite services was the subject of separate proceedings under article 169 of the Treaty.

Since the United Kingdom did not deny that a less stringent regime was applied to non-domestic satellite services, the only question arising in the present proceedings was whether article 2(1) precluded such different treatment.

While a member state could, under article 3(1), lay down stricter rules in the areas covered by the directive, the fact remained that, under article 2(1), all broadcasts transmitted by broadcasters under the jurisdiction of that member state or over which it was required to exercise jurisdiction pursuant to the second indent of article 2(1) had to comply with the law applicable to broadcasts intended for the public in that member state.

That objection was therefore well founded.

Finally, the Commission objected that sections 44 and 45 of the Act, dealing with the licensing of domestic and non-domestic satellite services, were not in conformity with article 2(2) of the directive in that the definition of those services in section 43 of the Act included broadcasters falling under the jurisdiction of other member states, thereby giving rise to the possibility of double control.

The United Kingdom did not deny that section 43 extended to all broadcasters transmitting from its territory.

It therefore was held that, by using criteria other than that of establishment, provided for in article 2(1) of the directive, section 43 of the Act, contrary to article 2(2) of the directive, also applied to broadcasters falling under the jurisdiction of other member states by reason of their establishment in those states, so that the final objection was also well founded.

On those grounds, the European Court of Justice declared:

By adopting, with respect to satellite broadcasts, the criteria set forth in section 43 of the Broadcasting Act 1990 for the purpose of determining which satellite broadcasters fell under the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom and, in the context of that jurisdiction, by applying different regimes to domestic satellite services and non-domestic satellite services, and by exercising control over broadcasts which were transmitted by broadcasters falling under the jurisdiction of other member states when those broadcasts were transmitted by a non-domestic satellite service or conveyed to the public as a licensable programme service, the United Kingdom had failed to fulfil its obligations under articles 2(1) and (2) and 3(2) of Directive 89/552.

Imposing anti-dumping duty

Climax Paper Converters Ltd v Council of the European Union

Case T-155/94

A policy of the Community institutions, in relation to the imposition of anti-dumping duties, of refusing individual treatment to undertakings from non-market economy countries, but imposing a single duty in respect of the entire country, was not contrary to the letter, purpose or spirit of the basic anti-dumping regulation, if the policy was necessary for the Community to protect itself against dumping and against the risk of protective measures being circumvented.

The Court of First Instance of the European Communities so held, inter alia, on September 18 when dismissing an application for the annulment of Council Regulation (EC) No 3664/93 of December 22, 1993 imposing an anti-dumping duty on imports into the Community of photograph albums in bookbound form originating in the People's Republic of China (OJ 1993 L333 p67).

The court said that the applicant claimed, inter alia, that Council Regulation (EEC) No 2423/88 of July 11, 1988 on protection against dumped or subsidised imports from countries not members of the EEC (OJ 1988 L209 p1), required the Community institutions to grant individual treatment wherever that was possible and particularly where, as was the present case, the undertaking had fully cooperated during the anti-dumping investigation.

However, there was no provision in Regulation 2423/88 which prohibited the imposition of a single anti-dumping duty for state-trading countries.

Moreover, in pursuing the disputed policy, the institutions did not wrongly interpret the term "if practicable" in article 13(2) of that regulation, which provided that anti-dumping regulations "shall indicate in particular . . . the name of the supplier, if practicable. . ."

It was not so practicable if, in order to avoid the risk of circumventing anti-dumping duties, it was necessary to impose a single duty for an entire country, and that was particularly so where, in the case of a state-trading country, the Community institutions had examined the situation of the exporters concerned and were not convinced that those exporters were acting independently of the state.

Scots Law Report September 30 1996 Court of Session

Choosing law of restitutionary remedy when contract is void

Baring Brothers & Co Ltd v Cunninghame District Council

Before Lord Penrose

[Judgment May 24]

Where a forward-rate swap contract was void ab initio by reason of being beyond the powers of one of the parties, the proper law of any restitutionary remedies available was not necessarily the same as that specified in the choice-of-law clause in the contract.

Rather, the court was entitled to hear proof on the matter of whether there was in reality only one centre with which the transaction had a material connection, which might or might not be in the same jurisdiction as that specified in the choice-of-law clause.

Lord Penrose so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session when allowing Baring Brothers & Co Ltd a proof before answer in an action of payment brought by them against Cunninghame District Council.

Mr Gerard Moynihan for the pursuers; Mr Neil Davidson, QC, for the defenders.

LORD PENROSE said that the pursuers were a bank who had entered into a forward-rate swap agreement with the defenders on September 21, 1988. It incorporated the standard form terms of the British Bankers' Association.

It was agreed between the parties that, following the decision in *Morgan Guaranty Trust Co v Lothian Regional Council* (1995 SLT 299) the contract was ultra vires the defenders and therefore void ab initio.

There was a choice-of-law clause specifying that English law was to apply to the contract. The pursuers sought restitution by repayment of the excess of sums paid by them to the council over sums paid by the council under the contract.

It was agreed that under Scots law the claim was extinguished by prescription and that under English law the limitation period had not expired.

His Lordship observed that the choice of law applicable to restitutionary claims when a contract was held or admitted to be void after partial or complete execution had been the subject of debate among eminent jurists and other commentators, but had received little attention from the courts. There might be various reasons for that.

It was possible that the issues which arose in the present case might have been raised in *Morgan*. The choice-of-law clause in that case provided that the agreement was governed by and was to be construed in accordance with English law.

Counsel for the pursuers suggested that if his argument were correct, *Morgan* might have been disposed of without convening a court of five judges, in that the remedy in restitution would have been open to the pursuers according to the proper law of the obligation.

It was not clear that that would have been so and it would be inappropriate to express any view on counsel's suggestion. Litigation was a practical art in which the results for which the parties respectively contended might be but incidentally related to the elucidation of legal principle.

While that reduced to some extent the impact of the absence of comment on the issue in *Morgan* the novelty of counsel's argument in a Scottish context could not but be emphasised by the fact that the point was not taken by counsel involved in that case.

In summarising the argument, counsel for the pursuer had identified three stages in the development of a claim for restitution.

At the first stage, parties acted on the assumption that there was in force a contract which regulated their relationship.

At the second, an issue arose as to the validity of the contract and that had to be determined on conventional theory by the putative proper law of the contract. For present purposes one was concerned only with the case where the decision dictated by the putative proper law was that the contract was void.

In that event there was a third stage at which one sought to determine the nature and extent of any restitutionary remedy to be applied.

The quasi-contractual issue did not arise in a vacuum. It arose by reference to events or transactions which had taken place under reference to a contract believed to have been valid according to a particular legal system.

That system ex hypothesi held the contract void; but its restitutionary remedies had to be assumed to be consistent with the system of law generally applicable.

In summary, the general proposition was that even where a contract was void all questions which related to claims for restitution were regulated by the putative proper law, at least where that had a practical connection with the transaction which had taken place.

Counsel for the defenders had argued that that analysis was without support in authority. It was in reality a contention that the choice-of-law clause in the void contract determined the proper law of the restitutionary remedy. One was left without any truly objective justification for applying English law.

There were few facts on which one could rely in deciding whether Scots or English law was the law with which the arrangement between the parties had the closest connection.

Counsel for the defenders had argued that dicta of the Lord President in *Morgan* (at p317) were binding and led to the conclusion in the present case that the pursuers could not found in any way on anything contained in the contract and in particular the choice-of-law clause. The agreement was void and one could not erect any valid claim on the basis of a nullity.

The view which his Lordship had formed was consistent with *Morgan* and was that it was incompetent to rely on direct application of a provision in a void contract in determining the choice of law in the context of restitution.

The context in which the Lord President's comments had been made were wholly different from that of the present case. *Morgan* had been concerned exclusively with domestic issues of Scots law.

The Lord President's comments could not be read as expressing a view on how to identify the system of law with which the quasi-contractual obligation on which the pursuers relied had connection.

For whatever reason, the issue between the parties was never focused as one of conflict, and the court had not been required to consider that matter. In his Lordship's opinion, the decision in *Morgan* did not determine the present issue.

His Lordship considered it appropriate to deal with that issue as one of principle on the basis that there was no authority adverse to that approach. The extensive discussion of the academic commentaries reflected the view that there was no binding authority and that there was a lack of convincing analysis in such authority as existed on the critical issues in the case.

The net creditor in many transactions might have come to believe at some stage that liability would ultimately be avoided and that excess payments would be recovered.

Whatever the relevance of such a belief to the right to recover once the law governing the restitutionary claim had been ascertained, his Lordship did not consider that there was any reason why it should have a bearing on the choice of law in the first place.

Where there was not an actual relationship in law derived from or defined by contract, identification of an erroneous belief or false assumption in the existence of a contractual obligation as a relevant factor would imply that the absence of averment or proof of that factor could affect the choice of law.

A more satisfactory test was whether in fact the payment had been made because there was an apparent contractual obligation leaving aside any question of belief in its validity or binding force.

The objective features in the typical case were those related to the fact of transfer and the absence of obligation at the time of that transfer. Gratuitous intent could usually be excluded leaving apparent contractual obligation as the only factor explaining the transfer.

If that were correct, the question became whether there was or should be a rule that the putative proper law of the apparent contract should dictate the choice of law to govern any restitutionary claim.

Despite the extensive academic debate there appeared to his Lordship to be a fundamental difficulty to be overcome in seeking within what was ex hypothesi a nullity the solution to the choice of law aspects of the problem of restitution.

A restitutionary remedy was available only because there was no contract. The proper law had exhausted its purpose in dictating that conclusion and it was not attractive to proceed then to give direct effect to a term of that contract when the contract had ceased to have any validity as between the parties.

The qualified enactment of the Rome Convention, in the Contracts (Applicable Law) Act 1990, implied that within the United Kingdom the determination of the putative proper law of a contract which had been held void ab initio and the determination of the proper law of a consequential restitutionary claim might identify different systems.

If that were not so there would have been no point in permitting the derogation nor in taking advantage of it.

Leaving aside the peculiar problems associated with choice-of-law clauses, it might well be that in the majority of cases in which a remedy in restitution was required following failure of a contract, for whatever reason, the facts and circumstances were likely to point to the same system of law as appropriate for the resolution of the quasi-contractual issues between the parties as would have been appropriate for the resolution of contractual issues had the contract stood.

That would best result from the application of a broad test from which one might reasonably accept two propositions:

1 The restitutionary obligation was governed by the proper law of that obligation: and

2 The proper law of the obligation was the law of the country with which the critical events had their closest and most real connection. The issue at that stage was whether the pursuer had a relevant case to support the assertion that the law of England governed the quasi-contractual remedies sought.

In his Lordship's opinion, there were a number of factors which, on an objective basis, and subject to proof might support the application of the law of England as the appropriate system of law to regulate the parties' restitutionary rights and obligations.

In his Lordship's view, the pursuers were entitled to proceed to proof on the basis of their argument that there was only one centre with which the transaction had any material connection, and that was London.

There were issues of fact that would require to be decided before forming a firm opinion whether the proper law of the obligation was the law of England and before deciding, as a matter of fact, what the law of England was.

Law agents: Dundas & Wilson, CS; Lindsays, WS.

Factors influencing caution for expenses

Margaret McTear v Imperial Tobacco Ltd

Before Lord Sutherland, Lord Milligan and Lord Murray

[Judgment July 19]

In determining whether to order a pursuer to find caution for expenses, the court had to consider the cumulative effect of any factors advanced in favour of the application as well as the individual factors themselves. Further, an appellate court could properly disturb the decision of the judge at first instance only if his decision was plainly wrong.

An Extra Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session so held in an action of reparation brought by Mrs Margaret McTear against Imperial Tobacco Ltd, refusing a reclaiming motion by the defenders against an interlocutor of the Lord Ordinary refusing to order the pursuer to find caution for expenses.

Mr Colin McEachran, QC, for the pursuer and respondent; Mr Nigel Emslie, QC and Mr Stephen Woolman for the defenders and reclaimers.

LORD SUTHERLAND, giving the opinion of the court, said that the pursuer sought damages in respect of the death of her husband from lung cancer which, it was alleged, had been attributable to cigarette smoking.

The case against the defenders, who were manufacturers of the brand smoked by the deceased, was that they had been aware for a substantial period before 1964 that smokers risked damage to their health but had given no warning of that risk to potential smokers until 1971.

The pursuer had applied for and been refused legal aid, which refusal had been confirmed on review. After that refusal, the defenders had enrolled a motion to ordain the pursuer to find caution for expenses. That motion had been refused by the Lord Ordinary.

For the reclaimers, it was accepted that the Lord Ordinary had a discretion in deciding whether or not to ordain the pursuer to find caution. It had been submitted, however, that the discretion had been vitiated in one major respect.

A number of factors had been put before the Lord Ordinary by the defenders to justify the motion, and it had been submitted not that any one of those factors would in itself have been sufficient to justify the motion, but that the cumulative effect of all of the factors was such as to justify the motion.

It had been submitted that the Lord Ordinary had dealt in his opinion with each of the factors, but had done so individually and had come to the conclusion that each was not a good reason for an order for caution or that it was not a decisive consideration.

In his Lordship's view it was clear from the Lord Ordinary's opinion that he had correctly directed himself to the effect that a number of factors could cumulatively justify the ordaining of caution.

While it was true that he had disposed of the matter in one sentence and had not given a detailed explanation as to why he had come to that conclusion, he had set out the correct test and all the factors which had been advanced by the defenders, and having dealt fully with each, it was perhaps not surprising that he had not gone through the exercise again in coming to his conclusion as to their cumulative effect.

The other ground upon which it had been said that the reclaiming motion should be allowed was that the Lord Ordinary's decision was one which was plainly wrong.

The test to be applied in cases where a Lord Ordinary's discretion was under attack was set out by Lord Fraser of Tullybelton in *G v G* ([1985] 1 WLR 647) which had been referred to with approval in Scotland in *Britton v Central Regional Council* (1986 SLT 207). Lord Fraser had also addressed the matter in a case similar to the present: *Stevenson v Midlothian District Council* (1983 SC (HL) 50).

Counsel for the reclaimers had argued that the court was free to order caution in any circumstances where the interests of justice so required and all other so called rules were subsidiary to that principle. The so called right of the citizen to come to court to have his claim heard without impediment was a subsidiary rule.

Counsel had accepted that mere impecuniosity was not by itself sufficient to warrant an order for caution, but it was a powerful factor. The authorities were clear to the effect that not much more would be required than mere impecuniosity in order to warrant an order for caution.

His Lordship did not disagree with that broad proposition provided there was borne in mind what had been emphasised by Lord Fraser in *Stevenson* that it would be wrong that a litigant with a stateable case should in effect be excluded from the court by an order for caution unless in exceptional circumstances.

Having considered the various factors, those of importance appeared to his Lordship to be that the defenders would undoubtedly incur substantial expense in defending the action which would be irrecoverable from the pursuer, the fact that the pursuer's case was faced with a number of factual difficulties and the fact that legal aid had been refused.

Against those factors had to be weighed the proposition that a litigant with a stateable case was entitled to come to court to have that case decided even though that litigant might be impecunious and might not be in a position to meet the possible expenses awarded against him.

The role of the court was not to come to a conclusion as to which of the two competing contentions was of greater weight, but to consider whether the factors advanced by the defenders were so cogent and compelling that they overcame the general principle that an impecunious litigant was entitled to advance a stateable case.

Having carefully considered all the factors advanced by the defenders and bearing in mind that they had to be considered cumulatively, his Lordship was unable to say that it was such an exceptional case that no Lord Ordinary properly directing himself could have come to any conclusion other than that caution should be ordained.

Law agents: Drummond Miller, WS, for Ross Harper & Murphy, Glasgow; McGrigor Donald.

Law Report September 30 1996 Family Division

New ancillary relief pilot scheme

Practice Direction (Ancillary relief: Pilot scheme)

In certain specified courts a new procedure would apply to all applications for ancillary relief commenced on and after October 1, 1996.

Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, so stated in a Practice Direction issued on July 25, with the concurrence of Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor.

The pilot scheme would apply in the Principal Registry Family Division and the following county courts: Barnsley, Bath, Blackwood, Bolton, Boston, Bow, Bristol, Bury, Crewe, Guildford, Harrogate, Hertford, Kingston, Maidstone, Northampton, Salford, Southampton, Southport, Stafford, Staines, Stoke-on-Trent, Taunton, Teesside, Trowbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Willesden and Wrexham.

THE PRESIDENT said:

1 Pursuant to the direction, in certain specified courts a new procedure would apply to all applications for ancillary relief commenced on and after October 1 1996. The new procedure had been formulated by the Lord Chancellor's advisory group on ancillary relief procedure in the form of a new rule, the text of which was in annex 1 of the direction.

Application of the new rule to specified courts only was by way of a pilot scheme so as to enable the procedure to be monitored and an evaluation made of the operation of the rule and the extent to which it achieved the objectives for which it had been devised.

The procedure under the draft rule was intended to reduce delay, facilitate settlements, limit costs incurred by parties to the proceedings and provide the court with much greater control over the conduct of proceedings than existed at present.

Application and extent

2 The procedure under the new rule would apply to all ancillary relief applications, including applications under section 10(2) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, where notice of the application or notice of intention to proceed with the application for ancillary relief made in the petition or answer was filed on or after October 1, 1996 in matrimonial proceedings pending or commenced in the courts taking part in the pilot scheme.

3 The new rule provided for an early first directions appointment at which directions would be given with the objective of defining the issues and saving costs.

Provision was made for there to be a financial dispute resolution ("FDR") appointment where proposals for resolving the application could be discussed in circumstances of privilege. The extent of discovery would be limited.

Written estimates of costs would be required to be provided at each hearing so that the parties were fully aware of the costs that were being incurred in the proceedings.

Legal representation

4 Where legal representatives attended the first appointment or the FDR appointment they would be required to have full knowledge of the case.

Judiciary

5 The district judge or judge before whom the FDR appointment was held would have no further involvement with the application other than to conduct any further FDR appointment. Where possible all appointments, other than the FDR appointment, should be before the same district judge.

Application of Family Proceedings Rules

6 In the proceedings to which the direction applied, the Family Proceedings Rules (SI 1991 No 1247) would apply with modifications given in detail in the direction.

Forms and court fees

7 The forms annexed to the new rule [available from the pilot scheme courts] should be used in ancillary relief applications to which the direction applied. Fees would be calculated in accordance with the Family Proceedings Fees (Amendment) Order (SI 1995 No 2628).

Right of landlord to nominate insurer of leasehold property

Berrycroft Management and Others v Sinclair Gardens

In the insurance of leasehold property there was no reason to imply any term into the covenant by the management company that there should be a restriction on the landlord's right to nominate either the company or the agency through which the insurance was to be placed. The management company and the tenant were protected by the qualification that the insurance office must be of repute. The right of the landlord to nominate the company and the agency was unqualified.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Hutchison) so stated on July 29, in dismissing 14 appeals requiring the court to consider the extent of the landlord's right under the applicants' leases to direct the insurance of property held by them and the liability of the tenant to pay charges for such insurance, from a judgment of Judge Paul Baker, QC on December 22, 1994, in the Mayor's and City of London Court.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that no question arose of the insurance having been arranged otherwise than in the normal course of business nor otherwise than through an agency of repute. Nor on the judge's findings were the rates proposed to be charged by the Commercial Union other than market rates. That they were higher than the management company could have secured was beside the point.

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4,700.40	Allied Domecq	453	- 9	6.5	17.2
257.90	Bibby (JP)	488½	- 28	3.4	16.5
53.70	Burn Stewart	94	- ½	6.6	20.2
90.30	Glenmorangie A	775	...	1.9	18.9
9,980.70	Grand Met	475½	- 2	4.0	20.2
8,789.10	Guinness	454½	- 9	4.2	14.0
453.20	Highland Dist	347½	+ 4	2.9	18.2
261.80	Matthew Clark	319½	- 31½	9.4	15.2
13.00	Morpeth Wt	113½	- 3½	4.7	10.9
4,698.80	SA Breweries	1650	...	2.1	..

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
18,629.90	ABN-AMRO	3505½	- 3½	3.8	12.4
8,351.60	Abbey Nat	584	- 28	4.9	11.0
2,560.50	Allied Irish	3697	..	4.7	10.9
5,659.00	Anglo Am Z	3625½	+ 10	5.1	8.9
21,145.00	Bank Americ	5184½	- 203½	..	..
2,933.20	Bank Scotland	2467½	- 8	3.5	10.4
14,175.20	Barclays	936	- 20½	3.8	10.1
2,469.70	Bk of Ireland	505	- 6	3.7	11.5
757.50	Cater Allen	900	- 26½	9.6	11.5
27,404.30	Citicorp	5662½	..	..	..
396.50	Close Bros	1228½	- 11½	3.8	13.0
5,176.50	Commercial	2344½	- 169½	3.5	..
34,364.90	Del Intl Kas Yt	1061½	- 25	0.5	..
14,354.30	Deutsche Bk	3021½	- 50	2.5	..
171.00	Dunfrie Sons	800	- 3½	4.4	10.6
36,284.10	Fst Bank Y	1252½	+ 13½	0.4	..
153.50	Gerard Nat	314	- 13½	9.2	9.9
467.50	Hambros	264	+ ½	3.8	..
10,823.50	HSBC	1222½	+ 5½	3.9	11.6
21,175.60	HSBC HKG	1153	+ 5	4.0	11.3
365.60	Irish Permt	4579½	+ 1	3.1	12.5
42.90	King Shaxson	162½	- 6	6.9	14.1
24.10	Leopold J	456	- 5	5.4	16.5
19,272.00	Lloyds TSB	376½	- 2	4.8	16.9
9,072.60	Nat West St	694½	- 4	7.0	8.0
11,591.10	Nat West†	978	+ 2½	4.9	9.7
25.60	Rea Brothers	55	+ 1½	2.2	21.6
4,010.60	Rgl Bk Scot	491½	+ ½	4.3	10.9
2,007.60	Schroders	1362½	- 10	1.6	15.7
492.50	Schroders NVT	1697½	- 5	2.0	12.5
240.00	Singer & Friedl	1210½	- 4½	4.4	8.9
6,745.30	Stand Chartd	689	- 26	2.2	13.4
29.10	Union	1050½	- 3½	3.4	11.8
16,081.10	Wells Fargo	£164¾	..	2.0	..
6,253.00	Westpac	339	+ 11½	4.3	10.1
29.70	Whitbread	345	..	4.5	17.3

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
8.40	Aberdn Stk HO	70	..	..	5.9
47.40	Ascot Hldgs	317½	- 12	..	12.0
6,923.70	Bass	785	- 6½	3.7	16.9
13.40	Bk for Bs Bdr	165½	- 3	3.8	17.0
34.30	Burtwood Brw	165	- 2	4.2	14.8
244.40	City Centre Rest†	126	..	2.2	23.7
1,773.50	Compass Gp	559	- 7	1.8	26.6
52.50	Eldridge P 'A'Ord	170	..	2.9	12.5
61.30	Fullr Sm 'A'	447½	- 10	2.6	15.3
1,688.40	Greenalls Grp	572½	- 6½	3.2	15.5
391.20	Greene King	643½	- 1	3.0	16.1
27.30	Grosvenor Rest†	192½	- 16	3.6	20.5
44.20	Groupe Chez Ga	2360½	+ 5	1.3	24.0
59.40	Hardy Hersn	397	- 4	4.7	11.1
93.00	Holt J	3000	..	2.4	16.1
33.10	Inn Business†	69½	- 1	1.4	32.6
195.70	Mansfield	302½	- 2½	2.4	14.7
267.00	Marston Thmp	236	+ 1½	3.1	12.1
165.00	Morland	600	- 2½	2.5	18.2
39.70	My Kinda Town	149½	- 2½	2.5	..
7.12	Nestaurant	6	- ½	..	9.6
127.30	Pelican Gp	172½	+ 2	1.4	23.6
275.80	PizzaExpress	479½	+ 29	0.7	..
35.20	Ransomes (H)	400	- 20	1.6	42.9
213.10	Regent Inns	252½	+ 16	1.1	..
4,138.40	Scott & Nwn	974	- 3	3.6	22.3
94.40	Tom Cobleigh	237	+ 4	1.4	39.7
371.20	Vaux Group	362½	+ 2½	4.9	13.6
491.40	Wetherspoon JD†	1040	- 2½	1.1	..
3,411.70	Whitbread	782	+ 4½	3.1	15.2
418.10	Wolverhmptn D	521	+ 3½	3.2	14.1
144.40	Yates Bros	365½	+ 1½	1.2	36.8
18.70	Young 'A'	645	..	2.9	25.4

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4.85	AAF Inds	21	+ 2½	..	..
65.80	Abbey†	170	- 32	4.2	..
111.10	Allen	280p	..	3.0	19.0
213.00	Amec	1014½	..	3.6	17.4
101.90	Amey†	352½	- 4½	2.7	22.3
66.80	Andrew Sykes	457½	- 27½	1.4	9.6
308.60	Ashtead†	218	- 1½	1.8	23.8
15.00	Associtd	345	- 1	3.6	..
3.25	Bailey (Stan) Cont	31	+ ½	4.2	12.5
27.30	Barcrest	51½	- 1	1.7	..
623.30	Barratt Dev	269	- 3½	3.9	..
522.50	Bazzer Homes	186	+ 4½	4.1	15.5
338.40	Bellway	342½	- 3½	2.8	17.0
8.40	Bethelhdch	187½	..	..	..
577.40	Bewbdy Gp	606½	- 6	1.8	17.5
24.50	Bett Bros	163½	..	4.1	6.9
61.60	Blast (Henry)	228	..	4.1	9.9
27.40	Brandon Hire	130½	- 2	2.5	16.5
6.27	Britannia Gp	27½	..	7.3	..
4.48	Br Bldg & Eng	40	..	..	..
363.90	Bryant	137	+ 4	4.7	..
44.30	CALA†	102½	- ½	4.1	..
1.51	Campbll & Arm#	83½	..	..	8.3
7.81	Clarke T	63½	- 2	8.7	..
114.90	Costain	55½	- 2½	..	..
56.30	Countryside	73½	..	4.8	..
73.40	Cres Nicholson†	74	- 1½	3.4	19.6
13.30	Crest Nicol	74½	+ 4	6.5	12.1
13.70	Eve Group	140	..	0.9	..
16.90	Galliford	19	- 1	6.6	41.1
67.40	Gleeson (MJ)	85	..	2.2	16.0
3.27	Grass (Eroy)	42½	- 3	3.0	..
100.60	Hanfield Euro	370	- ½	1.2	27.4
348.00	Hawdon-Skast	125½	+ ½	3.0	13.9
51.00	Higgs & Hill	77	- 4½	4.1	..
4.62	Hilliard Hdgs†	17½	- ½	5.7	16.1
71.10	Jarvis	165½	..	..	10.1
103.90	Ketterl	185½	+ 12	3.0	15.4
116.60	Lang (JA)	253½	- 1	4.4	..
42.00	Laing S 4% Cv Pf	104½	- ½	77	..
4.28	Lovell (YJ)	109	..	..	..
49.80	Marsden (J)	193½	+ 1	3.7	12.1
109.70	McAlpine (A)	150	- 7½	5.8	..
97.70	McCarthy & S	99	+ ½	3.2	13.4
54.50	Morgan Sindall	171½	+ 6	2.3	16.9
124.50	Morrison Cons	165½	+ 9	2.9	14.1
27.30	Norwich (J)	94	- 2	3.2	14.1
385.60	Persimmon†	2089½	- 5½	5.7	22.1
22.70	Pochins	109	- 5	2.9	..
107.90	Prowting	130½	..	3.8	27.7
39.20	Rainc Ind	15	..	..	..
293.60	Redland	132½	+ ½	3.1	..
4.69	Scapa Rotks	46	+ ½	2.7	24.1
29.80	Shirrll Hdgs‡	266	+ 1	3.3	11.2
4.60	Shorcrt	73	..	7.2	9.7
51.50	Speedex	352½	..	1.6	28.5
34.70	Tay Homes	419	..	2.4	19.3
623.60	Taylor Woodrw†	159	- 7½	2.2	17.3
169.80	Tilbury Douglas	502½	+ 2½	5.5	14.8
8.82	Try Group	124½	+ ½	..	..
36.00	Vibroplant†	76	- ½	6.5	..
70.20	Wilcon Homes	1121½	+ 2½	3.0	10.4
21.80	Ward Hldgs	41½	..	3.0	11.1
208.50	Westbury	233	- ½	3.2	21.0
48.40	Wiggins	84½	+ ½	..	..
304.40	Wilson (Cn)	153½	- 3½	3.7	21.3
418.40	Wilson Bowdn	447	+ 3½	2.9	20.9
498.50	Wimpey (G)	128½	- 1½	5.4	..

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
6.53	Albrightson#	6	..	..	..
1,904.20	BPB Ind	375	- 3½	3.2	18.6
46.60	Baggeridge Brk	114½	+ ½	3.4	22.0
152.50	Bardon†	349	- ½	7.2	14.9
13.10	Beckings	52½	- 1	..	..
2,852.50	Blue Circle†	386	- 3½	4.1	28.0
27.00	Bradstn PLC	95	..	3.2	13.9
21.80	Br Dredging	123½	+ 2	5.8	13.9
2,349.30	CRH	6535	+ 25	1.6	17.5
2.43	Calednood 10yr†	40p	..	6.2	11.4
66.10	Cape	155½	..	9.0	..
1,469.20	Cardinal	347½	- 1½	4.8	27.5
225.80	Castings pl	125½	+ 2	7.2	..
3.65	Chellaston Sqr	42½	- 1	4.4	68.7
3.67	Dixon (JE)†	222½	+ 28	2.5	17.5
12.70	Dyson 'A'†	103½	+ 16½	6.3	15.3
44.70	Ennstone†	205	- 6	5.4	15.4
39.70	Flare	136½	- 2½	1.5	15.1
1.43	Gibbs & Dandy†	84	- 5	5.6	8.6
184.40	Graham Gp	132	+ 4	5.5	25.8
165.10	Halstead (J)	1060	- 32	3.8	14.6
709.80	Hanson	269	+ ½	5.0	16.3
10.20	Howetson†	62½	+ 1	5.0	14.2
241.10	Hyland Wmn†	345	- 3½	7.0	11.8
271.40	Ibstock	169½	- 6½	4.3	12.5
49.80	Jobston	463	..	3.0	12.0
19.90	Lilleshall†	69½	..	3.7	11.1
448.40	Marley†	130½	+ 2	4.5	17.1
172.60	Mashdstn†	136	- 2	4.7	12.2
518.80	Meyer Int	408½	- 3½	2.7	15.3
143.90	Newman Tstnt	112½	- 1	7.7	20.0
146.00	Norcros	83½	- 7½	..	56.2
14.70	Phoenix Timber	22	..	1.1	..
1,928.40	Pilkington	188½	- 5½	3.4	10.9
3,154.60	Polypipe	181	+ 1½	3.6	16.8
2,988.10	RMC Gp	1145	+ 19	2.8	18.2
2,327.00	Redland	447½	- 8	4.7	21.7
15.90	Rocket	89	..	6.6	9.8
47.10	Rotarside	87½	- 2	4.0	13.3
653.00	Rugby Group†	102	- 4½	4.4	26.6
24.60	Russell (AV)	181½	..	3.3	18.9
264.20	SIG	249½	- 15½	3.4	13.7
4.23	SWP	54	..	..	..
45.30	Slagter & Fisher	208½	..	3.2	18.8
53.30	Spring Ram	11½	+ ½	..	8.3
133.60	Steetley Hdgs	215½	- ½	4.5	14.4
913.40	Tarmac	98½	+ 3	7.2	..
7.81	Tibbs	100	..	2.0	..
478.20	Travis Perkins	452	+ 4½	2.6	19.6
3.33	Tyler	30½	..	4.1	13.8
2,744.30	Wolseley	484	+ 10	2.6	16.7

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
618.00	Albright & Wil	186½	- 4	4.2	16.5
752.20	Allied Colloids	141	- 3½	2.5	24.6
23.90	Amber Ind	152½	..	4.7	10.8
31.00	Ambronay Gpt	92½	..	1.9	22.0
12,170.00	BASF Dfd	2081½	+ 75	2.8	..
4,231.10	BOC	976	+ 1½	3.9	15.8
513.90	BTP	518½	- 5	4.6	17.1
16,833.50	Bayer DM50	2329½	+ 6½	2.7	..
66.00	Brent Chems	101½	- 5	3.0	29.9
548.70	Br Vita	246	+ 1	4.1	28.1
76.80	Cowley (W)	269½	+ ½	3.9	29.9
83.70	Cty Technology	152½	..	..	..
1,948.30	Continentals	477½	+ 12	4.2	23.9
497.80	Croda†	371½	+ 19	3.2	17.6
44.30	Dudley	262½	- 9	3.2	15.8
268.80	Elks & Everard†	283½	+ 3½	4.1	14.3
35.40	Elm Colour	125	- 2½	4.5	15.3
12.80	Elmbrnt	121½	..	7.2	7.8
134.60	Hickson	76½	- 1½	3.3	..
12,581.00	Hoechst	2140½	- 25	2.5	..
147.10	Holliday Chem†	140½	- ½	4.5	19.5
6,017.50	ICI	831	- 8	4.7	20.0
397.70	Inspec'v	338	- 6½	3.3	11.0
462.60	Kalon†	113½	- 1	5.4	..
1,454.90	Laporte	751½	+ 13	3.9	48.7
61.80	Manbre†	225	- 5	7.0	13.7
55.40	Marblecrf	95½	+ ½	2.5	11.5
7.47	Matthew†	31	+ ½	3.8	12.5
73.40	Portalnt	250	..	2.4	19.5
650.63	Scapa	272	- 1½	3.1	15.4
48.90	Sutcliffe Speak	32½	..	3.8	12.5
10,277.10	Unilevels Chem	1174½	+ 6	0.7	17.3
68.20	Yorkshire Fl	852½	+ 10	3.6	15.5
110.40	Yorks Expl	241	- 5	4.5	13.6
397.80	Yule Catto	381½	- 1	2.7	18.2

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
90.90	ASI Leis	52½	+ 2	5.8	11.2
15.90	Adrs & Harvy	370	- 7½	5.5	6.6
5.84	Alexandrs	14½	- 1	2.6	..
56.50	Applegard	85	- 1½	9.1	9.7
0.19	Ass Br Engt	3½	..	2.1	..
159.60	BSS Group	600	..	4.3	16.6
31.70	Bandt	225	..	4.4	13.2
8.55	Bunzl Pwnr	44½	..	1.1	14.4
2.18	Bunzl 'A'†	44½	..	1.1	14.4
8.40	Abrdn Trst	70	..	..	5.9
47.40	Ascot Hldgs	317½	- 12	..	12.0
6,923.70	Bass	785	- 6½	3.7	16.9
13.40	Bk for Bs Bdr	165½	- 3	3.8	17.0
34.30	Burtwood Brw	165	- 2	4.2	14.8
244.40	City Centre Rest†	126	..	2.2	23.7
1,773.50	Compass Gp	559	- 7	1.8	26.6
52.50	Eldridge P 'A'Ord	170	..	2.9	12.5
61.30	Fullr Sm 'A'	447½	- 10	2.6	15.3
1,688.40	Greenalls Grp	572½	- 6½	3.2	15.5
391.20	Greene King	643½	- 1	3.0	16.1
27.30	Grosvenor Rest†	192½	- 16	3.6	20.5
44.20	Groupe Chez Ga	2360½	+ 5	1.3	24.0
59.40	Hardy Hersn	397	- 4	4.7	11.1
93.00	Holt J	3000	..	2.4	16.1
33.10	Inn Business†	69½	- 1	1.4	32.6
195.70	Mansfield	302½	- 2½	2.4	14.7
267.00	Marston Thmp	236	+ 1½	3.1	12.1
165.00	Morland	600	- 2½	2.5	18.2
39.70	My Kinda Town	149½	- 2½	2.5	..
7.12	Nestaurant	6	- ½	..	9.6
127.30	Pelican Gp	172½	+ 2	1.4	23.6
275.80	PizzaExpress	479½	+ 29	0.7	..
35.20	Ransomes (H)	400	- 20	1.6	42.9
213.10	Regent Inns	252½	+ 16	1.1	..
4,138.40	Scott & Nwn	974	- 3	3.6	22.3
94.40	Tom Cobleigh	237	+ 4	1.4	39.7
371.20	Vaux Group	362½	+ 2½	4.9	13.6
491.40	Wetherspoon JD†	1040	- 2½	1.1	..
3,411.70	Whitbread	782	+ 4½	3.1	15.2
418.10	Wolverhmptn D	521	+ 3½	3.2	14.1
144.40	Yates Bros	365½	+ 1½	1.2	36.8
18.70	Young 'A'	645	..	2.9	25.4

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
281.60	Barnwell	617½	+ 3½	3.0	17.7
6.88	Bridgend Gp	25	..	1.0	..
23.20	Brit Polythn	97½	..	4.9	11.0
9.40	Caffyns	265	..	5.0	22.6
33.60	Caernarfon	125½	- 8½	3.4	8.3
35.60	Charles Sidney	85½	- 1	5.5	12.1
28.10	Cook (DC)†	95½	- 4½	4.0	8.0
835.50	Cookson	376	- 13½	3.0	12.9
29.00	Dag Metals	120	- ½	8.2	8.3
25.20	Dawsons Int	142½	..	2.3	14.3
201.20	Diploma	360	+ 17½	3.0	12.7
1,835.90	Electrocomponts	385	- 10	2.1	24.7
1,133.50	Electrocomp Dist	1103½	- 4	3.1	18.7
85.90	Smallbar	1345½	+ 13	3.8	20.1
82.30	European Mfg	97½	- 3½	8.7	11.0
91.00	Evans Halshaw†	283½	..	7.5	11.1
7.67	Fitz Indrest	49½	..	8.3	7.4
157.20	Fowler Garf	314½	- 2	2.5	18.1
33.50	Gardner†	31	..	3.5	12.4
20.20	Glendimplex	67	- 2½	2.0	18.8
7.04	Gowrings†	78½	+ 3½	4.5	13.0
27.10	Hamlet†	91	- 1	8.2	..
28.30	Harris (Philip)	256½	- 1	3.9	19.5
148.10	Headlam	281½	- 10	2.3	23.2
176½	Hldrs Tech	176½	..	4.2	16.6
193	Hill & Sm Hldg	193	- 1½	1.7	17.3
78.48	ISA Intl†	282½	- 20	3.7	23.8
1,483.30	Jacksons	74½	..	2.9	28.6
8.05	Jacks Wood†	122½	- 2	2.8	18.6
411.70	Jrdn-Fit	233½	- 2	2.8	18.6
414.80	Lin Service	365½	- 11	5.3	11.7
39.20	Lindsay†	117½	- 2½	8.5	6.9
44.70	Lucas Ind	365½	- 1	5.2	11.7
4,727.10	Meggitt	1001½	+ 35½	1.7	22.8
44.70	Middlecrft	7	- ½	14.3	10.7
21.30	Molyncx Hldgs	40½	- ½	0.7	..
46.40	Norbrent	465	- 15	2.8	13.8
2,363.60	Smiths Ind	777½	+ 15	2.4	23.1
595.30	Spirax-Sarcol	754½	+ 4	2.3	21.0
97.70	Sterling Ind	321½	..	3.3	17.2
17	TT	572	- 15	3.0	20.4
12.60	Tinsley (E)†	121	- ½	6.0	13.6
188.60	Transtec	117½	+ 4½	2.5	20.3
1,804.90	Trinder Peart	665	+ 2½	2.0	17.8
37.20	Dublin Gavngt	1610½	- 4½	4.6	11.5
20.50	REA†	232½	..	2.2	25.5
2½	..	..	..	..	..
26½	..	7.1	9.1
3½	..	..	..
685	- 2½	2.0	12.9
1113½	+ 2½	3.7	13.6
1031½	- 2½	3.7	13.8
1½	..	..	..
1½	..	..	..
1½	..	..	..

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: Chartwell International, CNC Properties, Edinburgh Fund Managers, Edinburgh Investment Trust, Environmental Investment, Healthcall Group, Hiscox, Fiscal Properties, Inch Kenneth Kajang, MSB International, New Guernsey Securities, Oasis Stores, Scottish Assam Investment, Self Sealing Systems, Unicorn International.
Finals: Bellwinch, DCS Group, Guardian Media Group, Hidong Estate, Northern Leisure, Scottish Asian Investment.
Economic statistics: UK August final M4; UK August consumer credit; UK September provisional M0.

TOMORROW

Interims: Ash & Lacey, Boosey & Hawkes, Cardinal Business Group, House of Fraser, Hat Pin, Maiden Group, QS Holdings, Simba Fund, Watts, Blake & Beame.
Finals: Frogmore Estates, Lloyds Thompson Group.
Economic statistics: UK September purchasing managers index; US August leading indicators. IMF annual meeting opens.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Albany Inv Tr, Bank of Scotland, Bilton, Blenheim, Hewden Stuart, HTV Group, JJB Sports, Lamont Holdings, Time Products.
Finals: None scheduled.
Economic statistics: UK September official reserves.

THURSDAY

Interims: Denistron International, Hopkinsons Group, Martin International Holdings, Schroder Split Fund.
Finals: WWI, Galliford.
Economic statistics: Bundesbank central council meeting; IMF annual meeting ends.

FRIDAY

Interims: HC Slingsby.
Finals: Waterman Partnership Holdings.
Economic statistics: August housing starts; US September non-farm payrolls; Halifax house prices index; UK Nationwide house price index.

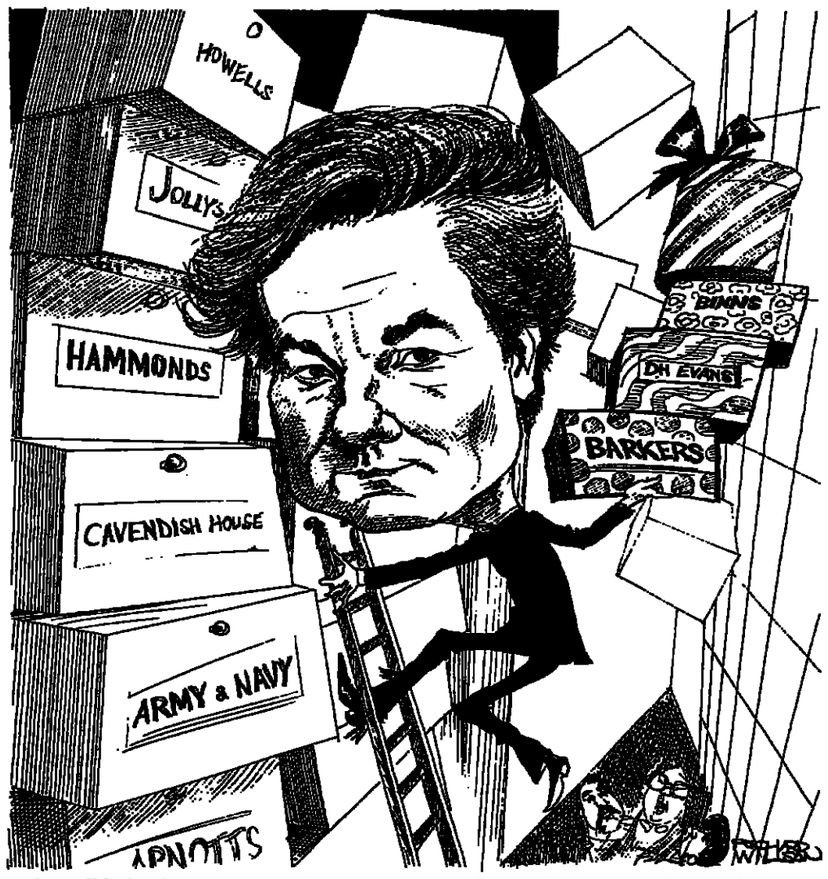
SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Sell** Kwik Save, Chesterton; **Buy** The Personal Number Company, Coutts Consulting Group. *The Observer*: **Buy** Enterprise. *The Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** HTV, Groupe Gerard, Oasis; **Hold** Tottenham Hotspur, Ockham. *Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** MR, Morrison Construction, JJB Sports. *The Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Standard Chartered. *Sunday Express*: **Buy** Glaxo Wellcome.

COMPANIES MICHAEL CLARK



Losses past haunt House of Fraser



Consolidation has meant a decline in margins at House of Fraser for Brian McGowan

HOUSE OF FRASER: These will be maiden results for John Coleman, the chief executive appointed in April. Unfortunately, they are unlikely to make pleasant reading, with increased losses expected in tomorrow's half-year figures.

Brokers say that the results will reflect the mistakes made by the previous management, showing pre-tax losses ballooning from £4.3 million to £7 million, while the loss per share climbs from 1.3p to 2.2p. The dividend is likely to be maintained at 1.7p.

It is doubtful that Mr Coleman has been wasting his time since taking over the reins and it is likely that the figures will be accompanied by the unveiling of a new strategy for the group. This, and the apparent upturn in consumer confidence, should result in a brighter future.

Unlike many other retailers, Fraser, under Brian McGowan, its chairman, has been cautious about current trading. The statement, at the annual meeting in May, talked of 1996-97 as a period of consolidation. Like-for-like sales in the first 17 weeks of the year were up 5.1 per cent, but remain overshadowed by the poor performance of the bought womenswear division. This, combined with the clearing back of lines of fashion stock, means that there is unlikely to be any improvement in margins until the second half at the earliest. NatWest Securities, the broker, says that tomorrow's figures will show a further decline in margins of almost 1 per cent, with overall sales held back by the closure last year of four stores.

BANK OF SCOTLAND: Interim figures published on Wednesday, are expected to show the benefits of the group's expansion programme. Pre-tax profits should have grown by about 12 per cent, to £294 million, although the final figure is expected to be inflated by an exceptional item of £24 million. There will also be the benefit of a full six-month contribution from Bank West of about £35 million. Shareholders are likely to be rewarded with a 16 per cent increase in the dividend, to 2.85p net, which trails behind the average 22 per cent increase for shareholders of rival banks.

Loan volumes are estimated to be increasing at about 12 per cent, with margins holding up relatively well. Much of this gain will have been offset by rising costs, which are reckoned to have increased 16 per cent year-on-year. Provisions for bad and doubtful debts should drop by about £5 million, to £60 million.

HTV GROUP: The group's share price last week overcame initial nervousness, prompted by talk of a European alliance as speculation about a bid from Carlton was revived. This week, the independent broadcaster will have a chance to shore up its defences when it unveils half-year figures on Wednesday. These are expected to show pre-tax profits growing by about £500,000, to £6.4 million, with earnings per share 4 per cent higher at 5p.

The market will be anxious to establish whether there has been any tail off in advertising revenue similar to that already indicated by other broadcasters. The general feeling is that HTV will have recorded a decline in its share of advertising revenue, but stringent cost-control measures will ensure that operating profits will be up by about 7 per cent.

HEWDEN STUART: The group has made no secret of the fact that trading conditions have been difficult during the first half of the year, and that will no doubt be reflected when the group reports on Wednesday.

But Hewden Stuart is a well-managed company and appears to have learnt its lesson since the problems of the late 1980s, when profits fell away to almost nothing. In spite of a difficult first half, brokers are still predicting an increase in pre-tax profits of about 22 per cent to almost £20 million. This underlines just how much the group is capable of achieving when good times return to the construction industry.

NatWest Securities, the broker, is a fan of Hewden Stuart. It points out that the group derives a return of between 20 and 23 per cent on its book capital employed. But an aggressive capital expenditure programme and the short life span of its plant equipment fleet means that its stated capital employed is close to its replacement value.

The fact that the management has never set out to paint a brighter picture of prospects this year suggests that costs have been kept to a minimum and any erosion in profits will have been minimal.

Earnings, up 22 per cent at 5p, should have improved in line with profits. The growth in the interim dividend will be of a more modest nature, showing a rise of 14 per cent to 0.8p. A payment of 3p has been pencilled in for the full year.

BLENHEIM: Half-year figures on Wednesday will probably come as a welcome change to the directors of Blenheim, who seem to have spent the best part of the past few months locked in takeover talks. After the breakdown of earlier talks with Reed Elsevier and United News & Media, it now looks as though Reed has decided to have another crack at it. Both sides are now trying to agree a price.

In the meantime, Blenheim is expected to turn in lower profits in the first six months compared with £13.1 million for the corresponding period, which in turn was down on the previous year. Brokers' expectations currently range from £9 million to £12 million and the shortfall will come as little surprise to the City. They say the final outcome always depends on how many of the big shows the group can stage. This apart, Blenheim should now begin to benefit from recent rationalisation and expansion moves into Eastern Europe.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Season for signals from the seaside

The biggest focus for London financial markets this week will be the Labour Party conference, in Blackpool, which will be tracked closely for any new hints on economic policy. John Shepperd, chief economist of Yamaichi International Europe, said: "With the Conservative Party conference next week, we are now entering what promises to be one of the longest election campaigns ever. A daunting prospect."

Among British economic statistics due this week are the publication of M0 money supply growth and consumer credit, both today. M0 is expected to have shown no growth in September, according to a consensus of market forecasts by MMS International, which would take its annual growth rate down to 6.5 per cent, from 7.5 per cent in August.

Consumer credit growth is reckoned to have been a touch weaker than the strength in July.

Tomorrow the latest report from British purchasing managers should reveal another modest improvement in manufacturing activity. Wednesday sees figures for the official reserves. August housing starts will be reported on Friday.

American developments will continue to be of keen interest after last week's surprise decision by the US Federal Reserve not to raise interest rates, as many had expected. Among the key US statistics this week are figures for personal income in August, published today. August leading indicators and September domestic car and truck sales tomorrow. August construction spending on Wednesday and August factory orders and home completions on Thursday.

The most eagerly awaited comes last: Friday's September labour market data. Strong employment growth in August, with non-farm payrolls up 250,000 in the month and a fall in the unemployment rate to 5.1 per cent, convinced many that interest rates were set to rise.

In September it is thought fewer jobs were added, partly because the survey period was only four weeks. The unemployment rate may tick up again to 5.2 per cent.

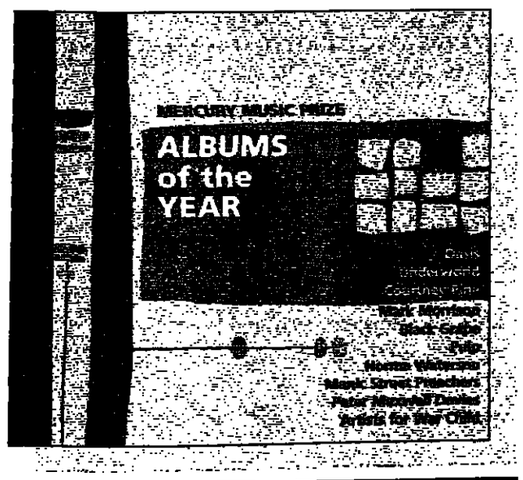
On Saturday, there are two potentially interesting events. Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, addresses a banking conference in Hawaii, and tentative arrangements have been made for another European Union conference in Dublin.

JANET BUSH

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

The Mercury Music Prize CD for £1

Today, for just £1, readers of *The Times* can get the Mercury Music Prize CD, which includes tracks by top names Pulp, Oasis and the very best of British artists. Ten top albums were shortlisted for the 1996 Mercury Music Prize, ranging as usual across the entire spectrum of British and Irish music, and this CD features a hit track from each. From the rousing three-chord pop of Oasis's *Hey Now!* to an excerpt from Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's *The Beltane Fire*, a hectic orchestral piece originally commissioned as the score for a ballet.



1996 MERCURY MUSIC PRIZE ALBUMS OF THE YEAR TRACK LISTING

1. Courtney Pine *The 37th Chamber* 4.20
2. Mark Morrison *Return Of The Mack* 4.34
3. Pulp *Disco 2000* 4.33
4. Black Grape *A Big Day In The North* 4.10
5. Norma Waterson *There Ain't No Sweet Man* 2.53
6. Manic Street Preachers *A Design for Life* 4.17
7. Oasis *Hey Now!* 5.41
8. Radiohead (for War Child) *Lucky* 4.20
9. Underworld *Confusion The Waitress* 6.46
10. Sir Peter Maxwell Davies/BBC Philharmonic *The Beltane Fire* (excerpt) 4.29

Musical excellence, regardless of genre, remains the sole criterion for inclusion on the Mercury list (*David Sinclair writes*), but in judging who should win the prize, the hardest part of the task in previous years has been to decide between records of similar provenance (Suede vs the Auteurs in 1993, Portishead vs Tricky in 1995).

However, this year the panel were torn between two vastly differing albums, eventually giving the award to Pulp for *Different Class* (represented here by *Disco 2000*), but also making a special acknowledgment of veteran folk singer Norma Waterson. Her delightfully nimble version of Fred Fisher's song, *There Ain't No Sweet Man That's Worth The Salt Of My Tears*, is typical of her self-titled album's warmth and understated charm.

Radiohead, whose own album, *The Bends*, was shamefully omitted from the 1995 short list, make a belated appearance this time around with their transcendent anthem, *Lucky*, representing the many artists who contributed to the War Child charity album *Help*.

A Design For Life from the Manic Street Preachers' album, *Everything Must Go*, was one of the most admired singles of the year, and the chart-topping *Return Of The Mack* from Mark Morrison's album of the same name was one of the biggest-selling songs of 1996.

Underworld and Black Grape provide two widely contrasting examples of the best in contemporary British dance music with *Confusion The Waitress* (from *Second Toughest In The Infants*) and *A Big Day In The North* (from *It's Great When You're Straight...Yeah!*) respectively. And Courtney Pine shows exactly why he is one of the most respected saxophonists of his generation, with a burst of hyperactive soloing sandwiched between the lilting refrain of *The 37th Chamber*, taken from his album, *Modern Day Jazz Stories*.

It is safe to say that no other album will be able to boast ten such diverse yet exceptional pieces of contemporary music....at least until next year's Mercury Music Prize short-list is announced.

● David Sinclair was one of the ten judges of the 1996 Mercury Music Prize.



In a different class: Pulp, winners of the 1996 Mercury Music Prize

HOW TO GET YOUR CD

Simply collect two of the six tokens appearing in *The Times* and attach them to the coupon with Token 1, right. Token 2 appears on Monday. Complete the questionnaire and send it with the three tokens and a cheque or postal order for £1, payable to Times Newspapers, to cover the cost of postage, packaging and distribution, to: *The Times* PT131, Mercury CD Offer, PO Box 510, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 8QS. The offer is not available to readers in Eire, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, or to employees of Mercury Communications or TNL. Please allow 28 days for delivery. One CD per household. This CD is not for re-sale. The closing date for the offer is October 14, 1996, and is subject to availability.

MERCURY CD APPLICATION FORM

Attach two more *Times* tokens to this form and send it, with a cheque/PO for £1 payable to Times Newspapers, to: *The Times* PT131, Mercury CD Offer, PO Box 510, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 8QS. The closing date for this offer is October 14, 1996.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other ..... Initials .....
Surname .....
Address .....
..... Postcode .....
Telephone no. (inc STD code) .....

1. Are you a Mercury customer (excluding the One-2-One mobile service)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. On average, how much is your quarterly telephone bill?
☐ Less than £75 ☐ £75-£100 ☐ £100-£150 ☐ £150+
3. How often do you use your telephone to make international calls?
☐ Once a week or more ☐ Less than once a week ☐ Never
4. Do you mainly use your telephone for
☐ Private calls ☐ Business calls ☐ Both private and business
5. Do you have or are you considering buying any of the following?

	Have	Considering
Fax machine	☐	☐
Internet	☐	☐
Mobile phone	☐	☐
Personal computer (PC)	☐	☐
Telephone chargecard	☐	☐

6. How many adults at your address use the telephone? .....
7. How many telephone lines do you have?
☐ One ☐ Two ☐ Three or more

It would help us if you would answer these four questions:

1. Which of the following age groups do you fall into? (please tick box)
☐ 15-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65+
2. Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (4-6 copies) during the week? .....
3. Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy occasionally (3 copies or less) during the week? .....
4. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (2-4 copies a month) .....

If you do not wish to receive mailings of offers or services from *The Times* or other companies carefully selected by Times Newspapers Limited please tick box ☐

THE TIMES MERCURY CD TOKEN 2

CHANGING TIMES

Midlands likely site for Rover

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE Government is believed to be close to granting about £70 million of aid that will create 2,000 jobs in the West Midlands building engines for BMW and Rover cars.

Negotiations on a deal over the siting of a £400 million engine factory recently entered their final stage when Walter Hasselkus, Rover's new chief executive, met senior officials from the Department of Trade and Industry.

The DTI is thought to have broadly agreed to the demands made by Rover and its German parent. The aid package still awaits final government approval.

The planned site for the new engine factory is Hams Hall in North Warwickshire. The other options considered by BMW were in Hungary and Austria.

Prickly investors give Thistle a modest welcome

BY MARTIN WALLER

THISTLE HOTELS, the latest in a rash of hotels groups to be floated on the stock market this year, will be priced tomorrow or Wednesday. Most analysts expect the shares to be valued below the middle of the quoted range, at between 180p and 190p, valuing the business at about £1.1 billion.

Anything less than 190p would be a reverse for the company and Merrill Lynch, lead broker to the issue, which took the unusual step last week of giving an update of the book-building process. Investors were invited to bid for the shares within a 170p to 210p indicative range.

The broker said the issue was already oversubscribed, with most investors applying at the middle of the indicative range or above. There had been suggestions that City institutions regarded this range as too ambitious, particularly at the top end which would represent a significant premium, on a like-for-like basis, over other quoted hotels groups. But the float, of Britain's biggest independent hotels operator, had been buttressed by higher than expected interest from the retail investor.

The initial assumption had been that about 7.5 per cent might go to private shareholders, encouraged by a 15 per cent discount on prices at the group's hotels and restaurants available to those applying for shares at the flotation. It is now thought that about 12.5 per cent may go to private investors, applications from whom were due in to financial intermediaries by Friday evening. Institutional book-building closes tomorrow

Robert Peel, Thistle's chief executive, made much during City presentations of Thistle's fast earnings growth although institutions have professed concern about the short-term effects on earnings of low rates of tax and depreciation. Thistle, originally Mount Charlotte hotels, is the product of that company's 1989 purchase of the Thistle Hotel chain of 35 four-star properties from Scottish & Newcastle, the brewer. In 1991, the group was taken over by Brierley Investments, of New Zealand. After the float, the Auckland investment company will hold less than 50 per cent of the enlarged share capital.

□ Brands Hatch Leisure, which owns Oulton Park, Snetterton and Cadwell Park as well as the Kent motor racing circuit, is seeking a stock exchange quotation via a placing by Beeson Gregory. The company was bought from Eagle Star by the late John Foulston's family in 1987. Nicola Foulston has been chief executive since 1990. The group hopes to raise at least £8 million in new money in a float that could value the enlarged company at up to £40 million.



THE Reuters City Sevens rugby tournament took place in Richmond, Surrey, yesterday, with 32 teams aiming to emerge triumphant from the pack. The event, in its twenty-fourth year, was held in aid of Sparks, which funds research in children's medicine.

KPMG calls for end to preliminary reports

COMPANIES should scrap preliminary profit reports, KPMG, the leading auditor, concludes after a study of them. The reports, which are supposed to give early indications of company results to the Stock Exchange, but are not sent to shareholders, have become cumbersome, expensive and unnecessary (Graham Searjeant writes).

KPMG found that most preliminary statements are based on audited accounts. They have also reached an average of 18 pages, compared with one or two when they first gained sway in the early 1960s.

Improved printing technology has made it possible to issue a plain version of a company's full accounts just as fast in most cases, including a directors' report and an operating and financial review.

As part of linked reforms, KPMG suggests that glossy annual reports should normally contain only a summary financial statement to shareholders, as a handful of companies now do. Full accounts accounts could be folded in for professionals and for private shareholders who wanted them.

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The good news, the bad and the great unknown

The good, the bad and the unknown. The gilt market will face all three in the next year. The good news will be on inflation, particularly in the next few months. Despite market fears that the economy is about to overheat, there is no evidence of this.

Core producer output price inflation has eased from 3.4 per cent to 1.3 per cent in the past six months and is set to reach zero soon, as competitive pressures persist. The Government's targeted measure of retail price inflation has stuck stubbornly around 2.8 per cent this year but will soon fall below the Government's 2.5 per cent target, as good news on producer prices feeds through.

Inflation risks must be watched closely, given the UK's poor record. But this recovery has been very different. Inflation has stayed low, in spite of sterling's ERM exit and four years of economic growth. The economy may be able to grow more strongly than the market believes before inflation intrudes. Firms have used existing capacity and labour more efficiently in this recovery. There are no signs of supply bottlenecks, in spite of the UK's low rate of investment. The trade deficit remains well behaved and has not even begun to act as a safety valve for inflation pressures. There is no evidence of wage pressures, in spite of the fall in unemployment.

GILT-EDGED

Consumers remain resistant to price rises, forcing retailers to keep prices down. Such price resistance will be crucial in restraining service sector inflation. As growth gains momentum next year, the gilt market may doubt that this favourable inflation trend will last, but it should, particularly if wage rises are contained.

The bad news remains the budget deficit. Stronger growth will ease the public sector borrowing requirement, but this cyclical impact will not be huge. The deficit's high level suggests that hard choices on spending are still being avoided.

The Chancellor's Budget may not be such a giveaway as many expect. Tax cuts may be modest, and will be paid for by cuts in spending. Similarly, any rise in state spending in future years would require tax increases. The big budget deficit should not stop gilt yields from falling, but may result in a relatively steep yield curve.

The unknown factor is Labour. At this week's conference, the party may portray itself as radical, but the market wants to know whether it is as conservative as Tony Blair usually suggests. By the time of the general election, the gap between the two main parties will have narrowed sharply. Economic recovery should boost the Conservatives' chances and Labour policies will be put increasingly under the spotlight. Although Labour remains favourite to win, a closer race will encourage it to advocate a cautious economic policy.

Mr Blair is appealing now to floating voters, positioning Labour in the middle of the political spectrum. After the election, he aims to appeal to the financial markets, being tough on inflation. The unknown factor is at what stage Labour will appeal to its own voters, who want higher spending on health, education and other areas. And will Labour be able to control public sector pay?

The euphoria of victory may delay Labour voters' calls for higher public spending. Mr Blair hopes a "growth dividend" will save Labour, allowing more spending without upsetting the markets. But it may not. The risk premium on gilts would also decrease if Labour took a pro-Monetary Union stance, but it may not be able to, because of the constraints this would put on fiscal policy. Continued good inflation news suggests that gilt yields are still attractive. Stronger economic growth in the next year may ease bad news on the budget. So, provided the political unknown doesn't turn out ugly, gilt yields should fall sharply.

GERARD LYONS
DKB International

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5633 (+0.0083)
German mark
2.3833 (+0.0276)
Exchange index
86.9 (+0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2822.4 (-18.5)
FT-SE 100
3946.4 (-17.7)
New York Dow Jones
5872.92 (-15.54)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
21547.02 (+434.78)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.07	1.91
Austria Sch	17.71	16.21
Belgium Fr	51.89	47.59
Canada $	2.242	2.082
Cyprus CypE	0.759	0.704
Denmark Kr	9.70	8.90
Finland Mkk	7.70	7.05
France Fr	8.44	7.79
Germany Dm	2.53	2.32
Greece Dr	390	365
Hong Kong $	12.71	11.71
Iceland	115	95
Ireland Pr	1.03	0.95
Israel Shk	5.37	4.72
Italy Lira	2481	2326
Japan Yen	186.90	170.90
Malta	0.605	0.550
Netherlds Gld	2.818	2.588
New Zealand $	2.38	2.16
Norway Kr	10.68	9.88
Portugal Esc	253.00	234.50
S Africa Rd	7.67	6.87
Spain Pta	206.50	193.50
Sweden Kr	11.02	10.22
Switzerland Fr	2.09	1.91
Turkey Lira	144400	136400
USA $	1.660	1.530

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

Young's papers to be studied

The Serious Fraud Office will have its first chance this week to study documents seized from the Buckinghamshire home of Peter Young, the unit-trust manager sacked by Morgan Grenfell for gross misconduct.

With officers from City of London police, the SFO searched Mr Young's £450,000 house in Amersham on Friday evening. They took away a number of documents, but no arrest was made.

The SFO formally began its investigation of the Morgan Grenfell affair last Thursday, based on information from the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro), the City watchdog.

Mr Young's controversial handling of £1.4 billion of private investors' money has cast serious doubt on valuations that made his trusts spectacular performers.

Druid quote

Druid Group, an information technology consultancy that tailors standard network software for big companies, is seeking a Stock Exchange quotation and placing sponsored by SBC Warburg. Founded in 1987 by David Thompson, now managing director, Druid more than doubled pre-tax profit to £3 million in the year to June 30, on turnover up 94 per cent to £12 million.

On-Line offer

On-Line, which develops and supplies electronic games for CD-Rom and the Internet, hopes to raise £1 million for expansion through an institutional and retail offer on the Alternative Investment Market in a month's time. On-Line provides games playable by more than 20 people at once, and is developing The Interactive Rocky Horror Show for CD-Rom. Grant Thornton is adviser and IA Pritchard the broker.

Insurance unions to sue over mergers

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

UNION leaders have pledged to sue insurance companies that fail to notify them in advance of mergers that cause swingeing job cuts among their members.

The threat follows a wave of redundancies as the insurance industry undergoes the most dramatic shake-up in its recent history. The Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union (MSF), one of the biggest unions involved, is angry that often employees first hear that they may lose their jobs from newspapers and morning radio reports in a "cornflake cull".

MSF is negotiating with management over job losses after the merger between Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance; the proposed merger between Refuge Assurance and United Friendly; Liverpool Victoria's purchase of the Frizzell Group, the insurers, and at Scottish Widows, the mutual life insurer that announced earlier this year that 500 jobs were to go.

Tony Whiteley, assistant general secretary of the MSF, said: "While we understand that the timing of these announcements is very sensitive, we do not believe details of job losses need to be given at the same time. This is done only to please the City.

"It is possible that when we sit down with management to discuss redundancies, it will emerge that far fewer compulsory redundancies need to be made than were originally thought. At Scottish Widows, for example, there has not been a single compulsory redundancy so far."

The MSF claims continuing rationalisation has left the industry's 200,000 staff anxious about their future. "The reality for people who work in the industry is that they are in for a rough ride and they know it," Mr Whiteley said. He believes the trend to convert mutuals into companies threatens jobs in Scottish life insurance, which has its heartland in Edinburgh. He has called a conference in Scotland, inviting both the Scottish Office and leading insurers to address these concerns.

In May Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance announced that their merger and the formation of a new company, Royal & Sun Alliance, would result in the loss of 5,000 jobs, 4,000 of them in the UK. In July 94 branches were closed and 1,300 jobs lost.

This week Lloyds TSB announced a bid for its remaining shareholding in Lloyds Abbey Life, and acknowledged that job cuts would be necessary when the business was streamlined.

Refuge and United Friendly are to shed around 1,800 jobs between them if their proposed merger goes ahead.

Some observers believe the industry could lose half the current 200,000 workforce by the end of the decade. Further cuts are expected as banks and insurers try to stay ahead of the competition.

Recent market rumour has centred on Legal & General, which is believed to have caught the eye of NatWest Bank. With a current market value of about £4 billion, L&G would probably cost £5 billion or £10 a share to buy and would be a large, but digestible acquisition for the bank.

London & Manchester has also been the subject of persistent bid rumours and Norwich Union is on the verge of announcing it is to demutualise.

Guardian Royal Exchange, widely regarded as the weak man of the composites, has been rumoured to have held talks with Commercial Union.



Lord and Lady Harris of Peckham took a trip down memory lane (well, High Street, Penge) on Saturday to serve old customers at the very shop where they once worked as plain Phillip and Pauline 39 years ago in his family's lino and carpet emporium. The carpet king has just added it to the Harveys chain, part of his H&C Furnishings.

Firecrest faces AIM delisting

BY FRASER NELSON AND HARRY CLEEVELEY

FIRECREST, the marketing-to-Internet group once hailed as the wonder stock of the Alternative Investment Market (AIM), is expected to become the first company to be delisted from it.

The Stock Exchange has told the group to name a replacement by the end of tomorrow for Singer & Friedlander, which this month resigned as its nominated adviser.

If Firecrest fails to do so, its shares will move to the unregulated Ofex market. It joined AIM at 42p a share and hit 192p last year, valuing the group at £45 million. The shares were suspended at 44½p. The company says it is in talks with a potential bidder.

Last week it suffered further bad publicity from allegations by the founders of Nethead, in which Firecrest has 74 per cent, after they were sacked.

Hanson starts its demerger

BY CLARE STEWART

HANSON'S Operation Demerger will start taking effect tomorrow morning when dealing begins in Imperial Tobacco, the first group to be floated separately. Analysts expect Imperial shares to open at 375p to 380p, valuing it at almost £2 billion.

Shares in cigarette groups have been affected by a successful action by a smoker against BAT in the US. A new UK legal action was announced last week. Leigh Day, the lawyer, is acting for 40 lung-cancer sufferers who claim Gallaher and Imperial failed to cut tar in cigarettes in the 1950s.

Early trading could see Imperial's price come under pressure as many US holders sell. When trading in Millennium Chemicals, the second Hanson arm to be demerged, begins in New York on Wednesday, UK holders may also look to sell, rather than be left with a small US holding. One analyst said: "It will take a week to ten days before prices in either stock settle down." A mid-price of about $25 is expected for Millennium, valuing it at £1.2 billion.

Hanson shareholders receive one share of Millennium Chemicals for every 70 Hanson shares held on October 1 and one Imperial for every ten Hanson. Investors who buy Hanson shares by the close of business today will receive Millennium and Imperial shares. Holdings too small to qualify will receive cash.

Low-cost dealing facilities for investors with smaller holdings of either Millennium or Imperial have been set up, and run until December 2.

The removal of Imperial is likely to cut the rump Hanson share price by about 38p and Millenium is expected to take away a further 22p.

Lively launch for news service

KELVIN MACKENZIE, head of Live TV, sent European Business News, the 24-hour television station, into a spin at the launch of its autumn schedule.

Accompanied by a riotous gang from TCI, the cable company, and Flextech, its European arm, MacKenzie turned up at EBN's Fleet Place studios uninvited. A search party was dispatched to hunt down MacKenzie. Adam Singer, president of TCI International, and Michael Conner, EBN's managing director, discovered the one-time *Sun* editor creating chaos in Studio 1 from the presenter's chair. An impromptu interview with the prankster is being kept on tape at EBN.

SEAN BLOWERS, the actor perhaps better known as Sub-officer John Hallam from TV's London's Burning, has set sail from Southampton on the Commercial Union Assurance yacht to compete in the BT Global Challenge, one of the world's toughest yacht races. Blowers, who will spend four months aboard, waved goodbye to his TV persona yesterday after Sub-officer Hallam died in a fire.

Gay protest

IVAN MASSOW, the self-consciously gay 1FA, has launched a £30,000 poster campaign featuring him and his boyfriend. "For the life that you may not want Allied Dunbar to know about" is just one of the campaign slogans attacking insurance companies for loading life premiums for gay men. Around 24,000 posters will appear in London, Manchester and Edinburgh. Massow tells me that his boyfriend, a hairdresser to the stars, was unsure about appearing in the campaign, and his parents certainly aren't happy.

Moving force

BZW bosses looked pleased with themselves at the opening of the extension to the Docklands Light Railway in London. No wonder — the investment bank acted as financial adviser to the consortium that executed the project that will take commuters from Lewisham to the Isle of Dogs and back. And isn't BZW moving 3,500 employees to new headquarters in Canary Wharf next March?

Employers find the traditional three Rs are much more important than IT skills and foreign languages. Nearly half of the 700 senior managers taking part in the survey by Black Horse Relocation and Management Today *said availability of a quality workforce was by far the most important criterion in choosing a new base. Birmingham as the best location. Walsall, Brighton and Halifax were least loved.*

Name your choice

ROGER CORK, the insolvency expert who will hear today whether he is to be the next Lord Mayor of London, was among those at Mr Garraway's farewell party on Gresham Street. Banca Commerciale Italiana has been granted permission to redevelop its headquarters, pushing the City's much-loved watering hole out onto the streets until the owners, Philip and Sarah Iles, hear whether they can move back to their other venue on Old Broad Street, which was bombed by the IRA. Meanwhile, Mr Iles, through the *City Diary*, is offering two bottles of port from 1977, the year Mr Garraway's opened, or a magnum of Perrier-Jouet 1978, to the reader who dreams up a suitable name.

MORAG PRESTON

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

Interoute to the exchange

HSBC JAMES CAPEL is this week joining in the Alternative Investment Market as the broker for Interoute, a telecoms company that is floating on Thursday.

HSBC's entrance gives a welcome boost to the junior exchange's prospects at a time when firms such as BZW and UBS are sounding a retreat. It has secured a £50 million price tag for Interoute, ranking its first Aim client among the 20 largest stocks in the market.

Airtech, which makes amplifiers for base stations in mobile phone networks, is also joining next week, at £31 million. It has raised £10.4 million after Albert E Sharp's placed 45.5 million of its shares at 68p each. Traders are expecting a premium of 10 per cent.

Trading last week was again quiet, as the FT-SE AIM index slid a further 15.5 points to 1,026.30. But the week's new issues — Weeks Group and Shalibane — both fetched healthy premiums.

Pan Andean Resources, the oil-exploration company, eased 15½p to 120p after its interim results showed no sales, no profits and little hope of black gold. Electrophoretics secured a patent for the much-publicised human CJD test on Thursday. Its shares finished 7½p stronger at 77½p.

Shares of Memory Corp, the silicon-chip repairer, now seem to have bottomed out. They closed 48 per cent stronger over the week, at 31½p.

Electronic Retail Systems fell back 23½p to 217½p as confidence in its product — digital supermarket shelf pricing — eased from the earlier levels of excitement. Bruce Failing, its chief executive, is touring Europe to bounce his idea off more supermarket groups.

Shares in ERS, the only company to be listed on both Aim and the Nasdaq, are proving vulnerable to a fall in confidence on either side of the Atlantic.

Word from the Stock Exchange is that its long-awaited Aim review is likely to come in the form of a series of corrections, rather than a pack of reforms.

As Aim welcomes a stream of larger and more profitable new issues, it is unlikely that the Stock Exchange will find much to alter.

FRASER NELSON

1996 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
150½	132	15.00	AFA Systems	150½	...	...	...
135½	109	19.20	AMCO Corp	134½	...	4.6	10.0
113½	67	18.50	AND Int Pub	86½	− 7	...	...
62½	18	3.27	Abacus Recruit	59½	− 3	...	...
15	14½		Abacus Rec P/P	14½	...	...	...
167	98	21.50	Active Imaging	117½	− 2	...	...
210	123	29.50	A de Gruchy	200	...	3.8	15.6
20¾	7¼	15.90	African Gold	15½	+ ½	...	34.6
21½	13	8.14	Albemarale & Bd	21½	+ 1½	1.5	...
58	32½	6.83	Alizyme	38½	+ 2	...	...
24	10½	7.75	Alpha Omikron	10½	...	...	...
480	380	46.00	Ann St Brewery	480	...	4.8	12.9
985	885	5.84	Ann St Cv Pf	985	...	8.2	...
121	48	52.90	Antonov	72½	− 8	...	...
9	7	1.66	Arion Props	7	− ½	..	55.9
81	32½	29.40	Ashursi	34	− 1½	...	...
141	68	19.40	Ask Central	120½	− 1	...	...
64½	55	1.16	Athelney Trust	64½	..	...	...
149½	123	45.00	BATM Adv Comms	145	...	...	...
7	5½	8.37	Ballynalray	6½	...	...	47.7
68	62½	12.10	Barbican Health	62½	...	...	...
46	37½	3.33	Belcanto	37½	...	...	...
150	140	1.01	Bowness Leis	147½	...	3.8	9.4
70	70	0.34	Bown Leis Cv Pf	70	...	...	..
70	41	7.89	Brancote Hdgs	45½	+ ½	...	...
107	89	3.84	Br Bloodstock	91½	− 2½	2.0	28.3
510	240	60.30	Brockbank	502½	+ ¼	1.8	16.3
134½	116	14.10	CA Courts Hldgs	132½	...	0.7	17.7
110	109½	0.12	CCI Founder Shs	109½	...	...	...
133½	116	1.06	CCI Hldgs	132½	+ 1	...	7.3
213	95	4.14	Cafe Inns	145	− 10	2.1	12.0
75	55	8.00	Caledonian Tst	67	...	...	8.2
98	68	13.70	Cardcast	84½	..	0.7	19.1
43	29	14.40	Card Clear	32	...	...	...
108	91	9.58	Carisbrooke Shlp	94½	..	1.3	8.9
72	55	3.01	Cassidy Bros	55	...	6.8	9.9
50½	41	2.20	Cavendish W	50½	...	3.7	24.3
21	16	6.16	Celebrated Group	18½	..	1.8	11.3
£325	6550	62.30	Celtic	£215	..	...	...
£275	6450		Celtic Pf Shs	£165	...	...	...
124	109	16.40	Cl Comms(TV)	121½	...	2.7	14.8
86	61	7.44	Chartwell Intl	65½	...	...	...
100	53	110.70	Chelsea Village	82½	− 17	...	...
215	120	12.70	Chemical Design	185	− 10	...	58.4
185	173	19.60	Circle Comms	180½	− 1	...	13.8
155½	131	24.70	Cirqual	149½	...	4.9	12.7
110	110	0.99	Clan Homes	110	...	...	63.6
35	25½	11.60	ClubPartners	27½	+ 2	...	...
510	500	12.00	Com de Pri Fin	500	...	3.1	...
19	15	8.47	Concurrent Tech	18	...	...	..
100	85	0.24	Conc Tech A Pri	95	...	...	...
100	85	0.19	Conc Tech B Pri	95	...	...	...
125	115	0.84	Conc Tech Rd Pf	125	...	...	...
225	215	0.17	Conc Tech Cv Pf	225	...	...	...
44	37	8.47	Conister Tst	38½	− ½	6.5	9.8
127½	58	21.20	Country Gdns	115	− 2½	1.5	11.8
97½	68	3.32	Cntry Gdns Pf	90½	− 2	7.3	...
109	54½	19.60	Creos Intl	54½	− 7	...	...
63	43	21.50	Crown Products	47½	...	...	...
495	152	36.30	DBS Management	481	− 11½	3.1	14.3
36	28½	1.37	Dalkeith Inns	28½	− 2	...	...
75	60½	3.71	David Glass	68½	+ 1	9.1	9.3
1700	860	89.40	Dawson Hdgs	1600	...	2.5	14.1
17	11	6.25	Dean Corp	14½	...	1.7	12.8
4	4	5.17	Denimaster	4	...	...	26.5
375	305	37.10	Dicom	361	+ 1	...	...
111	78	14.00	Digital Anmin	95½	− 1	...	...
87½	60	14.00	Dmatek	74½	− 6½	...	...
4	4	3.07	Drings of Bath	4	...	...	...
137	38½	9.91	Easynet	69½	− 3	...	...
246	148	45.70	Elec Retail Sys	217½	− 23½	...	...
200	60	50.60	Electrophoretics	77½	+ 12½	...	...
116	61	18.10	Epic Multimedia	77½	− 10	...	...
125	120	5.62	Euro Sales Fn	125	...	...	..
475	325	10.40	Fairtake	410	− 15	...	.
53	41	2.39	Fayrewood	45½	..	1.1	...
138	106	40.90	Fibernet	110	− 1½	...	...
70½	57½	3.52	Fieldens	70½	+ 8	2.7	...
260	75	5.77	Final Publs	245	..	.	...

1996 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
188	31	10.50	Firecrest	44½	...	...	19.0
183	22½	4.76	First Indor	23½	− 9	...	...
245	188	5.51	Flomerics	215	...	1.5	...
343	253	8.66	Floral St	337½	...	0.4	15.3
45	39	9.05	FNR Hldgs	45	...	...	...
193	134½	14.30	Formscan	135½	− 4	1.8	17.6
37¾	14	131.60	Freepages	34¼	+ 1¾	...	...
144½	93	8.67	Furlong Homes	144½	+ 3	2.2	12.8
23	16	6.46	Gabriel Trust	18	...	...	...
63	57½	17.90	Gali Thomson Env	57½	− 3	...	6.3
13½	8¼	38.60	Gander Hdgs	13¼	− ¼	...	..
109½	89	84.80	Gartland W&B	97½	− 2	...	...
23½	16	27.20	Gold Mines Sard	21	+ 2	...	...
13½	8	6.43	Gold Mines Srd Wts	12	+ 2	...	...
22	6	2.85	Greenhills	9½	...	...	...
15¾	13¾	1.83	Grosvenor Ltd	15¾	+ 1½	...	...
150	145	33.40	Guilton	148	...	3.8	12.4
218½	169	24.40	HIT Entertain	218½	...	...	71.0
41	17½	1.78	Hansom	17½	...	...	...
68	53	2.74	Hat Pin	62	+ 6½	5.5	11.4
275	155	6.37	Heavitree	275	...	2.6	17.0
255	180	10.70	Heavitree A	245	...	2.9	15.1
65	50	1.52	Hercules Prop	60	...	...	...
138	120	152.70	Hiscox	124	...	2.5	...
80	65	0.76	Hurlingham	65	− 5	...	...
119½	111	7.91	Hydro-Dynamic	117½	− 2	...	...
297	140	24.40	IES	160	− 14	0.5	...
280	130	2.89	IES Wts	140	− 25	...	...
96	65	17.10	Ind Brit Health	67	− 3	...	...
116	82½	11.70	Indpt Energy	89½	+ 2	...	...
134	105	22.60	Indpt Radio	126½	...	...	...
88	62½	10.50	Inner Workings	62½	− 2½	...	...
88	63	16.20	Intelligent Env	72½	+ 2½	...	52.3
3½	2	2.30	Internet Tech	2½	...	...	...
587½	503	24.60	Intl Greetings	587½	...	3.2	11.9
165½	108	36.10	IOC Intl	147½	− 13	...	...
103	83	3.48	Jasmin	85½	− 5	...	10.0
320	280	21.80	Jennings Bros	295	...	2.7	21.2
74¼	48½	8.97	Jordec	55½	+ ½	...	10.9
5½	3	4.02	Just Group	3	− 1	...	...
3	2	0.36	Just Group Wts	2	...	...	...
125	82½	38.10	KS Biomedix	90½	− 6	...	...
160	133	46.10	La Senza	137½	− 2	...	...
180	137	27.10	Lancashire En	149	...	3.4	13.6
320	210	19.50	Lawrence	320	...	2.8	18.0
3750	2550	60.70	Lawrie Group	3250	...	2.7	9.8
290	255	47.30	Le Riches Strs	285	+ 3½	7.0	15.5
15	12	0.60	Life Numbers	12	...	...	...
6	2	0.16	Life Numbrs Wts	5	...	...	...
16½	13	4.35	Lon & Edin Publ	14¼	...	2.2	10.8
95	85	0.86	London Asia Pc	85	...	...	...
70	55	1.50	London Town	60	+ 5	...	...
346¾	192½	39.00	Lorien Grp	342½	...	1.3	28.6
4¼	4	7.35	Lotteryking	4¼	...	...	30.9
1¾	1	0.30	Lotteryking Wts	1¾	...	...	...
25	15	9.80	Manx & Overseas	16½	− ½	2.5	22.3
135	75	9.98	Marine & Merc S	82½	...	...	...
125	107	2.51	Matrix Hithcare	110	...	...	...
117	92	55.60	Megalomedia	103½	− 1½	...	...
104	79	1.03	Megalomedia Wts	93½	...	...	...
113	86	7.01	Melrek	100½	...	3.2	18.2
475	22½	28.20	Memory Corp	46½	+ 15	..	...
55	22½	16.00	Meteor Tech	24	− 1	...	...
43	22½	0.43	Meteor Tech Wts	22½	..	...	...
22	18	4.66	Metrodome Films	18	...	...	...
238	156	17.80	Moorepay	235	+ 5	2.6	20.2
200	67½	7.95	Mountcashel	105	...	...	21.9
203	147½	29.40	Mulberry Group	148½	− 4	...	...
89	48	13.80	MultiMedia	48	− 1	...	...
19	17	1.32	NECA	18	+ 1	...	...
340	285	21.50	NWF Grp	285	− 5	3.5	12.6
210	175	14.80	Nash (Wm)	210	...	4.1	8.7
70	53	1.25	Natnwde Res Pips	59½	...	2.1	27.1
360	330	8.47	Neill Clerk	330	...	3.0	12.2
470	200	9.91	Neilson Cobbold	330	− 10	2.1	16.5
165½	118	49.90	Network Tech	159	...	...	...
101	65	1.07	Norcity II	97½	...	...	...
75½	63	1.46	Norhomes	75½	...	...	47.7

1995 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/−	Yld %	P/E
76	42½	4.87	Nthn Petim	42½	...	...	...
8	7½	0.12	Nthn Petim Wts	7½	...	...	...
116	110½	44.90	Nursing Home	113	...	4.1	32.5
162	85¾	26.10	Old English Pub	162	+ 4	0.8	70.8
136	84	12.60	Omnicare	108½	− 1½	1.3	16.8
75	17½	4.55	Omnimedia	18½	− 16½	..	...
123	66	20.80	Optical Care	89½	− 10	...	...
3¼	1	29.50	Pacific Media	2¼	− ¼	...	...
140½	17¼	49.40	Pan Andean Res	120	− 15½	...	...
220	180	5.14	Park Ests(Liv)	215	− 2	4.7	15.6
445	292½	75.80	Pet City	312½	− 40	...	...
337½	100	59.70	Philippine Gd	202½	+ 25	.	...
184	107	24.00	Polymasc Pharms	120	− 16½	...	...
4	3½	8.19	Pordum Foods	3¾	..	...	...
2	1½	0.33	Pordum Fds Wts	1½	...	...	...
600	400	7.61	Preston Nth E	590	...	...	...
105	100½	16.20	Primary Hlth Pr	101½	...	...	...
445	180	57.90	Prism Rail	445	+ 30	...	...
3	2	0.82	R Fraser Ast Man	2¼	...	...	...
74½	32	6.70	Raphael Zm	74½	...	2.1	46.7
140	43	8.79	Reltec	127½	+ 9	...	...
6	4¾	1.39	Revelation Pic	4¾	...	..	0.5
18	15	11.90	Riceman Insce	18	+ 1	...	...
99½	63	5.04	Romtec	97½	...	2.4	22.9
4½	3	2.70	Rushmere Wynne	3	...	...	...
1¾	0¾	0.14	Rush Wyn Wts	1½	...	..	...
165	151	18.90	SCi Ent	161½	...	...	11.4
126	31	3.19	SCS Satellite	31	...	...	...
75	54½	12.30	SEA Multimedia	54½	− 1	...	...
31	13½	1.15	Scotswood Inds	16½	− 6	7.6	15.6
49	23	4.66	Scott Pickford	37	− 3½	3.0	14.3
68	28	14.30	Scott Pride	45½	− 2	...	...
320	270	13.90	Scruttons	290	− 15	5.6	14.0
70	66	13.30	Selector	68	...	...	...
60	22½	1.31	Self Sealing	22½	...	...	...
137½	132½	6.61	Shalibane	137½	...	3.6	11.3
174	164	20.80	Sinclair Montrs	171½	...	...	...
5	3½	8.24	Sira Bus Serv	4	...	0.8	...
1½	1½	0.29	Sira Bus Wts	1½	...	...	...
91	83	5.28	Solid State Sp	84½	...	...	...
595	524	129.40	Southern News	537	+ 2	4.2	...
79½	50	14.40	Southern Vectis	75½	− 2	3.1	17.5
297½	225	32.10	Stallware	277½	− 2½	...	...
615	255	72.40	Stanford Rook	375	+ 5	...	...
201	75	9.83	Stanlor	139½	− 2	...	...
330	122	34.80	Surrey Fr Inns	329	+ 6¾	0.9	...
136	64½	8.71	Syst Integ Rsch	65	...	...	..
138	81	13.30	Theo Fennell	82½	− 1	...	...
15	7¼	19.80	Thomas Potts	11	− ½	...	...
116	73	15.60	Toad	92½	− 1	...	...
56	43	3.10	Tom Hoskins	50½	...	...	...
915	415	26.50	TRACKER Netwk	500	− 5	...	...
185	100	23.70	Tradepoint Fnl	110	...	...	...
180	160	4.88	Trinity Care	160	...	3.8	9.7
170	165		Trinity Care Pf	170	...	...	...
79½	46	293.20	Trocadero	59	− 4	...	...
179	143	23.80	UNO	170	+ 2½	...	39.5
42	40	3.65	Univent	40	...	...	18.4
458	373	6.90	Utd Auctions	387½	...	1.3	...
250	147¼	25.50	VDC	247	+ 9¾	2.6	15.8
19½	13½	47.10	Versailles Grp	19¼	...	1.3	20.3
650	130	8.55	Viewinn	285	− 30	...	...
428	232	6.98	Voss Net	260	...	...	...
57	46	13.90	Waterfall	54	...	...	...
21	13	3.58	Watermark	19	− 1	...	...
15	7	2.35	Wedderburn Secs	8½	− ¼	...	...
5	3	0.14	Wedd Secs Wts	4	...	...	...
7½	6¾	9.87	Weeks Group	7½	...	1.5	17.3
130	120	4.64	West 175 Enter	120	...	...	...
19	12½	6.82	Western Selectn	13	...	...	47.9
6	4½	0.28	Western Sel Wts	4½	...	...	...
31	26	3.11	Westmount Engy	29½	...	...	47.7
95	88½	3.90	Whitecross	94½	+ 5	...	...
163	135½	22.00	Whittard Chelsea	138½	+ 1	...	...
75	46	6.70	W'chester M Md	60½	− 1	...	...
145	100	3.79	Wynnstay Props	120	..	4.7	16.9
12	9	5.23	Xavier Comp	10	...	...	...
300	170	24.90	Zargo	270	+ 10	...	...

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 38

OCCULTATION

(c) Being hidden from view, or lost to notice. An astronomical term, referring specifically to the extinction of a heavenly body's light by the intervention of another. Such as Miss United Kingdom inadvertently or otherwise stepping between Miss France and the camera.

FARCEUR

(a) Strictly speaking, an actor or writer of farces, from the French. But in common parlance a farceur is a wag or humourist whose japes tend towards the practical. Thus the young Barry Humphries, whose Melbourne exhibition of Dada art included a pair of boots filled with custard and labelled 'Pus in Boots', could be so described.

GODWIT

(c) A marsh-wading bird with a long, upward-curving bill. One can only wonder at the origin of this 16th-century bird-word. But its potential for the mockery and denigration of the sanctimonious is obvious.

TRILEMMA

(b) A problematic situation in which there are not two, as in a dilemma, but *three* possible courses of action, each having its own disadvantages. You will find this rare word useful in many of the little accidents of life, including negotiations with garages repairing your car, marital arguments, property transactions, maternal visits, children's birthday parties, household budgeting, etc., etc.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rh6+! gxh6 2 gd6 and the f-pawn, assisted by the white king, will go through to promote.

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Philip Bassett looks at the union of purse and politics

New Labour and the ties that bind

If trade unions were a business, then with the rate of return they've got from the Labour Party since 1979, when all Labour's done for them is lose four elections, they would have been out of that market a long time ago. So at least claims the general secretary of a large UK trade union, wryly analysing the financial commitment Britain's unions have made to a political party that has now been out of power for close on two decades. The analysis is made all the sharper by what many union leaders feel is a clear drive under Tony Blair towards separation.

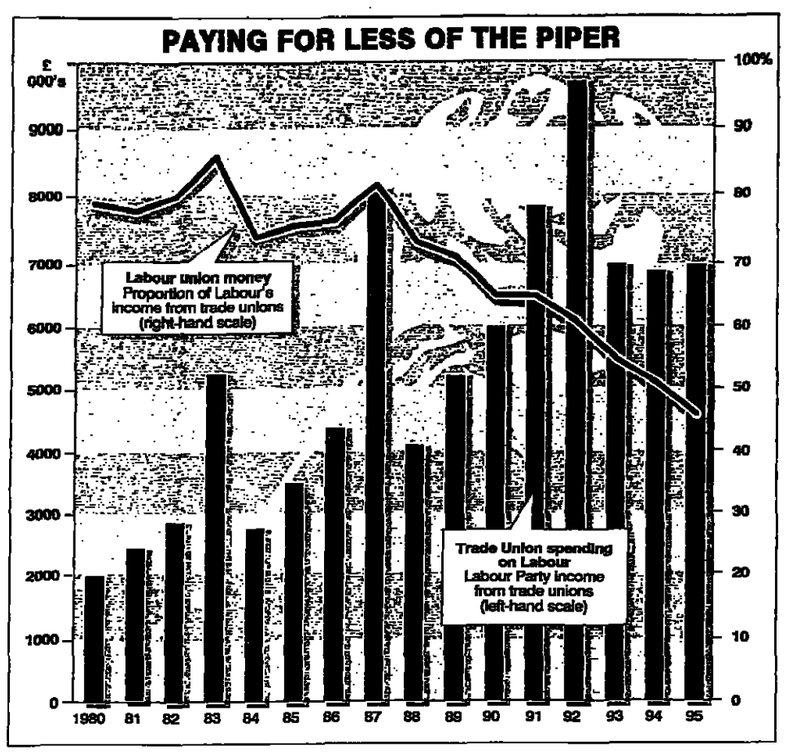
The Prime Minister takes a different view. Speaking last Friday, John Major gave warning that the unions "have a grip round the throat of a large part of the Labour Party machine. The Labour Party have been funded by the trade unions for a very long time, and they provide the bulk of their money".

Yet consider this: "If Labour comes in, it will enact many of the policies the unions want, like a minimum wage and union recognition," says David Metcalf, industrial relations professor at the London School of Economics. "You could say that this is a really good investment for the unions' money."

Is it? Is Labour a good *investment for Britain's trade unions?* And is *trade union* money still valuable to new Labour? As Labour's annual conference opens in Blackpool today the link between the party and the trade unions is again a central focus, with union leaders yesterday in the thick of arguments about specific Labour policies, and about the nature of the Labour-trade union relationship.

Today, *The Times* examines the core of that relationship — the financial link between the trade unions and the Labour Party, based on a detailed computer analysis of Labour's trade union funding since the party lost power at the 1979 general election, together with trade unions' political spending over that period.

With the advent in Labour of one member, one vote, the unions' old powers under which they effectively appointed the party leader are gone. With the decline in the unions' voting strength — today's party conference will be the first at which they wield as little as 50 per cent of the votes, compared with 90 per cent only a few years ago — *their influence on policy is limited. And most* union leaders believe that only a chosen handful are much welcomed in the Blair camp.



Only the issue of money really remains. As one senior Labour official puts it: "The relationship between the unions and the party turns on the financial issue now." Yet both Labour's dependence on union money, and the amount the unions spend on Labour, is now relatively so small that the political heat generated is, for the new Labour leadership, hardly worth the benefit.

Labour is fairly sanguine about its finances, even though it has incurred a "loss" in seven of the past ten years. It is reporting to today's conference a deficit for 1995 of £425,000, compared with a surplus the previous year of £1.2 million, and surpluses the two years before that. It is also reporting a doubling of its income growth rate this year, to 6 per cent. But political parties are not businesses and their finances fluctuate with the twists and turns of the electoral cycle. As the general election draws closer, so spending increases, and Labour's financial report to today's conference states: "While this first deficit in four years is a disappointment, it is not unexpected at this stage of the electoral cycle, and leaves the party reasonably well placed to conduct the general election."

Financial support from the trade unions will be important to that. Investigations by *The Times* reveal that overall union contributions to previous general elections were extensive: £2.33 million in 1983, £3.97 million in 1987, and £4.98 million in 1992. The figures do not include unrecorded assistance, in terms of cars, offices, equipment and people's time that the unions also gave to Labour during elections. Unquestionably, union funding has been vital to Labour. In 1980, for instance, the first full financial year after Labour lost office, the unions contributed £2.03 million of Labour's total income of £2.55 million, or 79.5 per cent. That funding level broadly continued through the 1980s.

Even after the recession of the early Eighties union membership rolls continued to fall, and with them the unions' affiliation levels to Labour. In 1980, the unions affiliated 6.4 million members to the party. New figures issued by Labour yesterday showed that this is now down to 3.6 million, a fall of 2.8 million, or 43.6 per cent.

At the same time, key people were pressing for change: party modernisers such as Tony Blair, Gordon Brown and Peter Mandelson argued strongly for Labour to increase its individual membership and become a mass member party, which in turn meant computer and financial changes to make such a vision a reality. Faced with all this, Labour had little choice but to change. It adopted a business plan geared to generating new revenue streams, as well as trying to put its finances on a sensible basis. Secondly, it won union agreement to siphoning off a proportion of the unions' regular payments to Labour specifically to a general election fund, to smooth out an income flow and avoid the party ever having to use the begging bowl again.



Bickerstaff: Unison



Edmonds: GMB

Five years down the track, the success of the moves is clear. Labour's overall income, after rattling round the £3 million level for years, stood at at £15.1 million in 1995. Adjusted for inflation, that is close to a threefold increase. Much of that is due to commercial fund-raising — from £1,000-a-head dinners in Mayfair hotels to corporate days out for business leaders, who will be swished up to Blackpool tomorrow to hear Tony Blair's keynote speech. A decade ago, fundraising provided only 2 per cent of Labour's income. Now it is almost 19 per cent.

As Labour draws nearer to the possibility of power, contributions from wealthy individuals are increasing: "high-value" income, as Labour now likes to call it, will total more than £2.5 million this year, after high-profile donations such as £500,000 from Bob Gavron, the publisher, and £1 million from Matthew Harding, Chelsea FC vice-chairman. The effect of all these changes is to decrease markedly the proportional contribution the trade unions make, as the chart shows.

The unions' share of Labour's income fell from 80 per cent after the party left office to just 46.6 per cent in 1995, establishing a downtrend of about 5 points a year that is likely to continue. Internal unpublished Labour calculations estimate that unions may provide only 41 to 42 per cent of Labour's income next year. As one senior Labour figure says: "The contribution of the trade unions to the party has declined and we have to make that absolutely clear to people."

Calculations by *The Times*, based on Labour's own figures, show that since 1980 affiliated trade unions have contributed £86.4 million to Labour. Adjusted to 1995 prices, that is more than £111 million, leaving aside the small amounts for sponsoring MPs, now ended in favour of contributions to local constituency parties.

Total income from unions to Labour's operating general fund amounts to £60.3 million, or about £83 million at 1995 prices. The unions have contributed £26.1 million, or almost £32 million at current prices, to Labour's general election funding over the period. Such money is not to be sneezed at, but the fact is that in terms of the votes they will wield at today's conference, and financially, the unions are now in effect minority shareholders in Labour. That carries clear implications for the future.

The likelihood is that the unions' conference voting strength will follow their financial contributions below that key 50 per cent threshold. As one Labour figure puts it: "Labour could now easily do without the unions — apart from general election money — without going under as a business."

For the unions, such a move would be ill-advised. While it may cause political difficulties for Labour, the proportion of unions' income that they spend on Labour is small. Even after the decline in their power, membership and influence, Britain's unions still have money: in 1994, the latest year for which complete figures are available, total income was £724 million, total spending £711 million, total funds £701 million and gross assets £856 million.

Political spending by trade unions is strictly controlled by law. It is possible only from dedicated political funds established by members' votes. Subsequent ballots must be held periodically and individual members are free to opt out of paying the so-called political levy — that part of their union subscription channelled into the political fund.

In 1994 the unions' total political spending amounted to £18.4 million, just 2.6 per cent of their overall spending. Total political fund income was £18 million, with funds standing at £15.2 million. Total political fund spending from 1979 to 1994 was £175.9 million, or some £240 million at today's prices.

Labour reckons to get no more than 50 per cent of the political spending of its affiliated unions, and Labour's total income from unions in 1994 amounted to just 1 per cent of the overall spending of Britain's trade unions.

"Labour is fantastic value for money for us," says one union general secretary. "It's one of the unions' best-kept secrets — it's all done on the cheap." As one senior Labour figure puts it: "If you're a trade union, and you want to insure against a government that will damage your position and make things difficult for the welfare of your members, if you pay an insurance premium at this level it's a very inexpensive premium."

But just as Labour has spread its income net, so too have Britain's trade unions widened their political spending. The table shows the ten largest political spenders of Labour's affiliated unions. The big three dominate: Unison, for instance, lists its overall political spending at a huge £6.2 million — 34 per cent of the total. The big three unions together account for three-quarters of all trade union political spending. Yet union spending on Labour now amounts to only 38 per cent of their total political spending. Much else goes on lobbying across Westminster and in Whitehall, as well as in Brussels and Strasbourg, or on general political advertising.

Labour leaders point out that while unions press companies, for instance, to see training as an investment, rather than as a cost, they apply precisely the same thinking to their own donations to Labour. They see a cost which delivers little, rather than an investment — and an extremely inexpensive one at that — which promises much. Some close to the Labour leadership want to see the links with the trade unions ended. Others want a radical reshaping of the relationship. Some senior union leaders privately believe that they should initiate moves to reshape them further, rather than let the party leadership make all the running.

Against that the financial reasons for maintaining the link are strong. For the unions, it is a cheap and effective purchase, even if at present they are being pushed out into the cold. For Labour, with union income in a clear minority, it is a funding source which now no longer carries the power clout it did and so offers new Labour the advantage of the money, shorn of the obligations it used to carry.

As one senior Labour figure puts it: "Everyone knows the position of the unions — that they have historically been the paymasters. But now they're not, and it's clear that things have changed for the better."

LABOUR'S TOP 10 UNION SPENDERS

	Union	Affiliated to Labour 1996	£ to Labour
UNISON	Public service workers	700,000	6,283,000
GMB	General workers	700,000	3,481,000
TGWU	Transport workers	700,000	2,676,000
AEEU	Engineering workers	400,000	1,229,000
CWU	Communication workers	252,000	1,188,000
USDAW	Shopworkers	258,000	828,000
MSF	White collar workers	174,000	483,000
RMT	Rail workers	50,000	240,000
ISTC	Steel workers	51,000	135,000
NUM	Miners	9,000	130,000

Graham Searjeant's column will now appear on Thursday each week

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[illegible]	17.9%	£114.68	£5,504.64	17.9%	£200.69	£9,633.12
[illegible]	18.9%	£116.00	£5,568.00	16.9%	£196.88	£9,450.24
[illegible]	16.9%	£112.78	£5,413.44	15.9%	£194.27	£9,324.96

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RADIO CHOICE

Action replay of Watergate

The Monday Play: American Faith: Richard Milhous Nixon's Road to Watergate. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

Nixon's misdeeds and subsequent disgrace are comprehensively chronicled in the history books. Mike Walker was not content to leave them there. He has compellingly dramatised what I thought was beyond dramatisation as it already represented the ultimate in political theatre. "It's sad, so sad," says the wife of the discredited president during the closing credits, the likes of which I have never heard on radio before. This implicit plea for our sympathy finds pre-echoes in the play. Only occasionally does Walker take our knowledge of the Watergate scandal for granted. In Ned Chaillet's gripping production, Colin Stinton's Nixon has more than the ring of authenticity. It has a whole peal of bells.

On This Day. *Radio 4 (LW), 10.15am.*

The only fault I can find with this looking-back series is the closing weather forecast. Who cares if there was thundery rain on September 30 1945? On that day, BBC radio launched the Third Programme with the satirists Stephen Potter and Joyce Grenfell telling us how to listen in. The opening item finished seven minutes too soon. And as the Nuremberg war crimes tribunal reached its climax, the strains of a Bing Crosby recording wafted in from the adjoining guardroom. It was *Don't fence me in*, an irony that was not lost on those observing the accused in the dock.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **6.30am** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Charlie Jordan **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** In Concert: Radiohead recorded at T in the Park **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess **4.00am** Clive Warren, with the Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Alex Lester **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Malcolm Laycock, with Dance Band Days **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Star Spangled Voices (1/5) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Charles Nove **3.00** Steve Madden

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme incl at **6.55, 7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine, with Brian Hayes, incl **10.35** News from Europe **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl **12.35pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl **3.05** Actuality **4.00** Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sports Bulletin **7.35** Football Legends: Len Shackleton. Jimmy Armfield recalls some of the game's greats **8.00** The Monday Match: Coverage of Newcastle Utd v Aston Villa from St James's Park **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Anna Raeburn **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Drivetime, with Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST.** News on the hour. **5.30am** Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** Soundbyte **7.30** Andy Kershaw **8.15** Off the Shelf: *Sailing Alone Around the World* **8.30** The Vintage Chart Show **9.15** The Ecological Fightback in Latin America **9.30** Keep to the Path **10.05** Business **10.15** Anything Goes **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf **12.30** Omnibus **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Andy Kershaw **3.05** Outlook **3.30** John Peel **4.05** Sports Roundup **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.10** World Today **6.25** Take Five **6.30** News in German **7.30** Brain of Britain **9.01** Outlook **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** Multitrack. Hit List **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** The Health of Planet Earth **10.45** Material World **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.10am** Take Five **12.15** Record News **12.30** Multitrack: Hit List **1.30** Global Concerns **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Outlook **2.55** Words of Faith **3.30** Meridian **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. J.S. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 1 in F major) **3.00** Nick Bailey **6.00** Classic Newsnight **6.30** Sonata. Brahms (Viola Sonata in E flat major, Op 120) **7.00** Celebrity Choice (r) **8.00** Evening Concert. Borodin, orch Glazunov (Petite Suite); Szymanowski (Violin Concerto No 1, Op 35); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 5 in E minor, Op 64) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Jeremy Clark

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Presented by Andrew MacGregor. Bach (Violin Concerto in A minor, BWV1041); Strauss (Ein Heldenleben; Stanford (For lo, I raise up); Delius (Idyll); Puccini (Madam Butterfly); Janacek (String Quartet No1)
9.00 Morning Collection. Catriona Young begins a season of Mozart chamber music
10.00 Musical Encounters. Walton (Overture Portsmouth Point); Britten (Holy Sonnets of John Donne); Purcell (I Was Glad); Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 54 No 2); Stanford (The Blue Bird); Takemitsu (A Flock Descends into the Pentagonal Garden); Elgar (Sea Pictures)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Steve Reich at 60. William Mival explores the music of the American composer with the help of the LSO and Michael Tilson Thomas
1.00 News; Budapest Wind Ensemble, play Druschetzky, Gyrowetz, Haydn, Beethoven, Bartok and Hungarian peasant songs
2.25 The BBC Orchestra. The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra with conductor Martyn Brabbins in conversation with composers Minna Keal and Piers Hellawell
3.45 Voices. Anthony Rolfe Johnson (r)
4.30 Class of 86: A British Jazz Decade. Nikki Yeoh, whose career took off when she stepped into a jam session with Courtney Pine, and Richard Fairhurst talk to John Fordham about what has happened to them in the last ten years (4/4)
5.00 The Music Machine. Tommy Pearson talks to conductors Stephen Cleobury and Bo Holten, producer Michael Emery and some of the BBC singers about what goes into making a great choir (r)
5.15 In Tune. Presented by Jeremy Nicholas. Includes Hérold (Overture Zampa); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in D minor, BWV851) and Haydn (Symphony No 97 in C)
7.15 BBC National Orchestra of Wales, plays Britten (Sinfonia da requiem) and Mahler (Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen) with conductor Mark Wigglesorth and Matarina Kameus, mezzo
8.00 A New Map of British Fiction, with novelist A S Byatt **8.20** Concert, part 2
10.00 Ensembles. Continuing the celebrations of the Roberto Gerhard centenary, Penny Gore introduces a recital by the Kreutzer Quartet
10.45 Between the Ears. A new series of eight sound-pictures begins with an evocation of the ancient Japanese city of Kyoto
11.30 Composers of the Week: The Court of James VI, with soprano Mhairi Lawson and lutenist Jacob Heringman (r)
12.00 The Road to Toledo 1. The ensemble Sirinu with Robert Langdon-Lloyd as the chronicler, follows a royal progress with songs and dances of the 16th-century Flanders and France
12.30am Jazz Notes, from Glasgow
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** A Moment's Liberty. The diaries of Virginia Woolf abridged and read by Eileen Atkins (1/5) **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, with Melvyn Bragg, Minnette Marrin, Michèle Roberts, Roy Porter, Mary Midgley and Kevin Brownlow
10.00 News; Battling with the Past (FM)
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW). See Choice
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 Money Box Live
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm The Labour Exchange. Rory McGrath chairs the panel game with team captains Tony Hawkes and Stephen Frost **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke in Blackpool and James Cox in London
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping forecast
2.00 News; I Am a Donut, by Mike Bradwell. With William Hootkins, Haydn Gwynne and Garren Givens (2/2)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker listens to Keith Jarrett playing Mozart and sees the RSC's touring version of *The Comedy of Errors*
4.45 Short Story: Love and Death in Languedoc. A selection of French tales written and read by Christopher Hope (1/5)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 News Quiz. Simon Hoggart is joined by Francis Wheen, Fred MacAulay and *Times* columnist Alan Coren (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Food Programme
7.45 The Monday Play: American Faith: Richard Milhous Nixon's Road to Watergate See Choice
9.45 The Magic Formula. Anna Grayson talks to the geologist Dr Ali Whitaker about his theories about the connections between science and the music of Mozart **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight. With Jeremy Harris in London and Robin Lustig at the Labour Conference in Blackpool
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Gatsby. Sam Robards reads F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel. Abridged by Neville Teller (6/10)
11.00 Chain Reaction. Sarah Dunant presents a series of discussion programmes exploring the art of decision-making and the dilemmas it involves. This week, a deadly cargo is lost at sea. How will the interested parties react to the situation? (4/5)
11.40 Reading Aloud: Free Spirit, by Jonathan Raban (r)
12.00 News incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Nico — Songs They Never Play on the Radio The true story of rock enigma Nico, written and read by her keyboard player, James Young (1/8) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

Mumbo-jumbo, market forces and mimicry

REVIEW



Peter Barnard

Last night's television highlights consisted of two programmes on the same channel: one full of strange, obtuse language concerning mysterious events and other-worldly perceptions. The other was about God. When in doubt as to where to start, I find it best to choose the programme that is easier to understand. So I shall start with God.

Heart of the Matter (BBC1) returned for another series and brought together philosophical, scientific and theological worthies wrestling with the question of whether scientific advance by its nature made belief in God impossible, or at least redundant. *Heart of the Matter* has developed from the somewhat cosy and formulaic programme it was some years ago into a first-rate vehicle for the exploration of moral issues.

The protagonist last night was Richard Dawkins, the Oxford professor and atheist, whose film for the programme argued his familiar position that science has rebutted the central tenet of religion, which is that we are the product of an omnipotent creator.

There followed a studio discussion, adroitly steered by Joan Bakewell, which featured Dawkins, Baroness Warnock, Dr David Starkey, the theologian Wentzel van Huyssten and the Roman Catholic scientist Michael Heller. I found the discussion a shade narrow, but at least it produced one or two startling moments.

Dawkins had said in the film that he believes that "the modern molecular digital gene is a nail in the coffin of the religious world view". Yet in the discussion Dawkins said this: "If you use the word religion as a label for a sense of awe and wonder, almost a worship, of the complexity of the universe and of life then I am a religious person."

Set that statement alongside Warnock's remark that "the paraphernalia of religion" can be seen as "a metaphor rather than a superstition", and you are some way towards reconciling science and religion, for there are many thinkers in the churches who do not believe that what I would call the mumbo-jumbo of Christianity excludes a belief in God as humanity's name for the moral centre in each one of us.

If God and science present no serious problems for the engaged mind, last night's other newcomer does. **Star Trek: Voyager** (BBC1) need not detain me long, for I have always thought the cult status accorded to the original *Star Trek* was ridiculous and overblown, sentiments that apply in spades to this newcomer.

Now we are aboard the starship *Voyager*, commanded by Kate Mulgrew as Captain Janeway. She and her ship are no less two-dimensional than was Kirk and the *Enterprise* and the dialogue is just as laden, if not more laden, with techno-babble. Thus does Janeway define last night's little problem: "If I'm not mistaken, we're looking at a type four quantum irregularity." And if I'm not mistaken, we're looking at a grade one bundle of hokum.

So enough of that and on to the global economy, as featured in the first of a two-part documentary, **The Hollow State** (BBC2, Saturday). Simon Hoggart's thesis is that the nation state is all washed up, dispatched down the Swanee by the electronic interchange of money, ideas and goods.

This is hardly new, nor is it very alarming. Westminster and other parliaments have long resembled medieval jousting tournaments staged for foreign tourists. If global markets, rather than hapless politicians, are to be the engines of change then at least that makes the consumer king, for all markets are ultimately slaves to their customers.

And yet... Arthur C. Clarke said in the programme that: "the nation state is obviously obsolete". I hate to argue with the man who predicted geo-stationary satellites as far back as 1946, but just as science does not necessarily exclude religion, the global community does not necessarily exclude the nation state. National governments surely have a role in protecting the cultural wellbeing of citizens, who may wish to wave the Union Jack, even if it has been made by workers earning £100 a month in Guandung province.

Governments losing their powers have only themselves to blame. Alvin Toffler, the American futurologist, talked last night about the "transition from a brute-force economy to a brain-power economy". Governments that prop up the former with ludicrous subsidies while closing their eyes to the latter have done more to demolish their own power base than any Hong Kong broker.

God, science, starships, shrinking nation states: I know, this is just what you needed on the way back to work on a Monday morning. So let us pay respects to the world's finest resource, which is laughter, and give mention to **Rory Bremner... Who Else?** (Channel 4, Friday).

Bremner is a stupendous impressionist, the cat's whiskers. His show is almost wholly political and my only quibble is that he was halfway through the arid pastures of a Paddy Ashdown speech before I realised this was neither Paddy Ashdown nor one of his speeches: Bremner's ear is so acute that his parodies sound like the real thing.

The two Johns, Wells and Fortune, are also back, this time to explain Government policy on monetary union. The policy is to have a policy of not having a policy, until such time as there is a need to change the policy to a policy of being in favour of monetary union or a policy of being against it.

Oh I see, that was a parody, too. Very good.

● *Lynne Truss will appear tomorrow*

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (41160) **7.00 BBC Breakfast News** (Ceefax) (12059) **9.00 Breakfast News Extra** (Ceefax) (8062837)

9.20 Style Challenge (s) (5057671) **9.45 Kilroy** (s) (1777837) **10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (58276)

11.00 News and weather (4066769)

11.05 Perry Mason. Includes news and weather at 12.00 (r) (Ceefax) (36378479)

12.45pm Carrier's Caribbean (r) (87329027)

1.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (82818)

1.30 Regional News and weather (45719547)

1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (32087566) **2.00 Call My Bluff** (s) (6652059) **2.35 Turnabout** (s) (1281837) **3.00 Who'll Do the Pudding?** (s) (7856)

3.30 The Busy World of Richard Scarry (s) (8142479) **3.55 Bodger and Badger** (s) (6615092) **4.10 Ace Ventura: Pet Detective** (s) (Ceefax) (7079108) **4.35 Record Breakers** (Ceefax) (s) (4295214) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (7378030) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (2098189)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (645214)

6.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (127)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (479)

7.00 Telly Addicts. Noel Edmonds hosts the lighthearted quiz show searching for the *Telly Addicts* champions of 1996. (Ceefax) (s) (9837)

7.30 Mastermind. The third semi-final of the 1996 Championship from the Opera House, Jersey. The specialist subjects are Gene Kelly, William Walton, Donatello and Albert, the Prince Consort (Ceefax) (s) (363)

8.00 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (8585)

8.30 X Cars. Undercover cops Phil Seeley and Steve Lewis go in search of ram raiders (Ceefax) (s) (7092)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News, Regional News and weather (Ceefax) (5092)

9.30 Panorama. Steve Bradshaw reveals the tricks of the trade, used by politicians' spin-doctors, to ensure that favourable stories are picked up by the media (Ceefax) (954769)

10.10 Chicago Hope. Watters enters a charity boxing competition and faces a tough street fighter called Tony. After taking several blows, Watters retaliates and knocks his opponent down. Tony is rushed to hospital with suspected paralysis (Ceefax) (s) (199905)

10.55 Film 96 in New York with Barry Norman. Barry Norman travels to the Big Apple, where the New York Film Festival opens with Mike Leigh's *Secrets and Lies*. (Ceefax) (s) (728740)

11.25 FILM: Shadow Makers (1989). A powerful evocation of a great turning point in human history — America's decision in 1942 to attempt to build the first atomic bomb. Paul Newman plays General Leslie Groves, who appoints the brilliant scientist Oppenheimer to the project, despite his pacifist tendencies. With Dwight Schultz, Bonnie Bedelia, John Cusack, Laura Dern and Ron Frazier. Directed by Roland Joffe (527160)

1.25-1.30am Weather (2272352)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: The History of Maths (2793837) **6.25 Wrapping Up the Themes** (Ceefax) (5943158)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (8184566) **7.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (9436856) **7.55 Blue Peter** (2688092) **8.20 King Greenfingers** (1498924) **8.25 Tales of Aesop** (8804382) **8.35 Lassie** (2057566)

9.00 TV6 (50634) **9.30 Cosmo and Dibs in Punjabi** (8190943) **9.40 Megamaths** (2018059) **10.00 Playdays** (66382) **10.30 Hotch Potch House** (s) (1102566) **10.50 Look and Read** (1115030) **11.10 Zig Zag** (s) (4119491) **11.30 Ghostwriter** (4127)

12.00 GNVQ (70498) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (16699) **1.00 History File** (73416943) **1.20 Spanish Globo** (63915585) **1.20 Landmarks** (Teletext) (s) (73495450) **1.45 Storytime** (s) (45729924) **2.00 King Greenfingers** (r) (s) (25731419) **2.05 Tales of Aesop** (r) (30686360)

2.10 Labour Party Conference Live (s) (651189)

3.55 News and weather (Ceefax) (4295566) **4.00 Today's the Day** (s) (932) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (276) **5.00 Esther** (s) (2653) **5.30 Going, Going, Gone** (s) (856)

6.00 UFO: Survival. Foster's life is threatened when his moon buggy is struck by an alien craft (Ceefax) (s) (606473)

6.45 Conference Talk. A live phone-in with politicians in the news (s) (118382)

7.30 NEW Top Gear Motorsport. Tiff Needell, Tony Mason and Steve Berry return with what's new in the motoring world. They look back over the touring car season, coverage of the World Rally Drivers' competition and action from the last round of the World Motorcycle Trails Championship in Belgium (Ceefax) (s) (176127)



Mahatma Gandhi (8.05pm)

8.05 People's Century: Freedom Now. What did independence mean for millions in Africa and Asia after Europe's colonial empires ended? (r) (Ceefax) (s) (437740)

9.00 SERIES Pioneers: My Special Children. Focusing on the work of Dr Barbara Ansell and her team who helped thousands of children crippled by arthritis (Ceefax) (s) (3634)

9.30 Sykes: Ankle. A gust of wind distributes Eric's rubbish over his neighbours' path, with unfortunate results. With Eric Sykes and Hattie Jacques (r) (Ceefax) (88905)

10.00 Game On. Sit-com set in a shared flat. (Ceefax) (s) (71127)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (719943)

11.15 The Larry Sanders Show: Doubt of the Benefit (Ceefax) (s) (631276)

11.40 Seinfeld (Ceefax) (s) (784127)

12.00 Grace Under Fire. Sit-com (s) (46536)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Brookside
Channel 4, 8.30pm

A favourite soap opera ploy, always good for boosting audiences, is to bring back a character who has not been around for a while. *EastEnders* did it over Christmas when Frank Butcher made his creepy comeback. Now Patricia Farnham (Gabrielle Glaister) suddenly turns up in Brookside Close, three months after she abandoned hubbie Max and took the kids to France. Custody battles loom, there is a new health scare for Pat and, to complicate everything, Max is back with his first wife. The plot potential is rich indeed, as it needs to be because this week *Brookside* is being shown not three times but daily, from Monday to Friday. The show's budget is obviously healthy, for most of the cast seems to follow Pat back to France before the week is out. The *EastEnders* folk must be envious. They only got to Blackpool.

Pioneers: My Special Children
BBC2, 9.00pm

It is hard to believe, as late as the 1950s, how much misery arthritis was inflicting on children. Victims were in great and constant pain, had difficulty in moving about, some were blinded by the disease, some even died. That most children now escape these effects is largely due to the efforts of Dr Barbara Ansell. The Berkshire hospital where she practised closed 11 years ago and is now a ruin. The return visit she makes for this film is deeply sad. But at 72 she is still active and thousands have reason to be grateful to her. Not that either patients or colleagues could have found her easy. She admits to being a bully and she scorned those who did not work the same punishing hours. "When I was your age," she told a young surgeon bleary with lack of sleep, "I didn't go to bed."

Wilderness
ITV, 9.00pm

Alice (Amanda Ooms) is an attractive young librarian with an unusual private life. It is not just that she prefers one-night stands to lasting relationships. Once a month she goes down into her cellar and turns herself into a wolf. No wonder she is seeing a therapist (Michael Kitchen), though it takes a love affair with a zoologist (Owen Teale) to unlock her troubled mind. Dennis Danvers's novel has been adapted by Andrew Davies and Bernadette Davis (the team behind the BBC2 sit-com *Game On*) and the director is an expert in mood and menace, Ben Bolt. This formidable creative input cannot entirely disguise what is essentially a psychiatric case-history, and one that may take some believing. But accepted on its own terms *Wilderness* is gripping drama and Ooms, an actress of Dutch-Swedish background, has a beguiling presence.

Cutting Edge: The Test
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The driving test is the one exam with a guaranteed 50 per cent failure rate. No wonder it causes such trepidation. John Fothergill's diverting documentary claims to be the first to put cameras in the cars and record the test as it happens. The film features two candidates from opposite ends of the spectrum. Richard Reynolds starts lessons on his 17th birthday and is so confident that he has booked his test for two weeks ahead. Aviva Howard has failed the test 42 times in 21 years. Inevitably she is the main focus of interest. Small and voluble, she cheerfully trades insults with her longtime instructor and insists that she loves driving but she can never concentrate on what she is supposed to be doing. Test number 43 threatens to be no different from all the others.

Peter Waymark

ITV

6.00am GMTV (9595059)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (4407932)

9.55 Regional News (3260653)

10.00 The Time... the Place (60108)

10.30 This Morning (42789818)

12.20pm Regional News (7643092)

12.30 News and weather (2757127)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (2732818) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (5304194) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (97348214) **2.25 Quisine** (s)'(97327721)

3.20 News (Teletext) (7460498)

3.25 Regional News (7469769)

3.30 Tots TV Classics (s) (6630301) **3.40 The Slow Norris** (s) (4875837) **3.50 Wolves, Witches and Giants** (s) (6618189) **4.05 Sooty and Co** (s) (7076011) **4.25 Scooby Doo** (Teletext) (7092059) **4.50 How 2** (Teletext) (s) (7534160)

5.10 Bruce's Price Is Right. Contestants put their knowledge of high street prices to the test (s) (5671784)

5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (161837)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (641059)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (728672)

6.50 Let's Go (115479)

7.00 The List (4905)

7.30 Coronation Street. Tricia nurses a sore head and Raquel arrives home from her aromatherapy course (Teletext) (289)

8.00 World in Action finds out why more than 12,000 children every year are excluded from our schools (Teletext) (s) (3653)

8.30 The Upper Hand. A friend of Laura's offers her a job as her companion on a two-year world tour (Teletext) (s) (2160)



Amanda Ooms as Alice White (9pm)

9.00 SERIES Wilderness. The first of a three-part fantasy drama (Teletext) (s) (8059)

10.00 News (Teletext) and weather (68653)

10.30 Regional News (927585)

10.40 FILM: Murder in Black and White (1990) with Richard Crenna and Diahann Carroll. Two policemen comb the streets of New York for the killers of the newly appointed black police chief. Directed by Rober Iscove (44371672)

12.30am Bushell on the Box (s) (19994) **1.00 The Crime Hour** (66062) **2.00 Jones and Jury** (s) (1070130)

2.25 FILM: Seduced (1984) with Gregory Harrison, Cybill Shepherd and Adrienne Barbeau. An ambitious politician is drawn into a web of intrigue when his lover is found murdered. Directed by Jerrold Freedman (388826)

4.05 Coach (r) (s) (79152994)

4.30 The Time... the Place (r) (s) (71807)

5.00 The Entertainers (r) (49710)

5.30 News (34791)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV WEST except:

2.50pm-3.20 Look and Cook (7464498)

6.25 Wales Tonight (892672)

7.00-7.30 House to House (4905)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.25 All Good Gifts (7651011)

12.55 Coronation Street (2732818)

1.25-1.55 Quisine (68682721)

1.55 Home and Away (63547289)

2.25 The Body — a User's Guide (97341301)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (1296769)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5671784)

6.00 Westcountry Live (66194)

7.00-7.30 Bruce's Price Is Right (4905)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (2732818)

1.25 Quisine (68682721)

1.55 A Country Practice (32091769)

2.20 Blue Heelers (6623547)

3.00-3.20 A World of Wonder. A series about the scientific and natural worlds (1986276)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5671784)

6.25 Central News and Weather (892672)

7.00-7.30 Bruce's Price Is Right (4905)

12.30am Nationwide Football League Extra (5649062)

1.10 The Crime Hour (5707772)

2.15 Jones and Jury (4481062)

2.35 Film: The Hi-Jackers (8505888)

4.00 Jobfinder (9719888)

5.20 Asian Eye (5716062)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55 Quisine (2732818)

1.25 Home and Away (3330127)

2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (7189653)

5.10 Home and Away (5671784)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes — the Listings (346092)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (295)

6.30 Spirit of the South: Down the Meridian Line (547)

7.00-7.30 Bruce's Price Is Right (4905)

10.30 Meridian News and Weather (918837)

10.45 The Pier (733672)

11.10 The Listings (978479)

11.15 A Summer Concert from Wilton House (845301)

12.15am Sound Bites (5758623)

5.00 Freescreen (49710)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 Hammerman (5241568) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (72759) **9.00 Bless This House** (78030) **9.30 Ysgolion** (537363) **12.00 Right to Reply** (65566) **12.30pm Backdate** (93837) **1.00 Siot Meithrin** (53176) **1.30 Film: Up in Arms** (16547) **3.30 The Living Sea** (653) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (160) **4.30 Garden Party** (672) **5.00 5 Pump** (8677721) **5.15 5 Pump** (7357547) **5.30 Countdown** (924) **6.00 Newyddion** (500363) **6.05 Heno** (629837) **6.35 Jacpot** (878276) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (929769) **7.25 Taro Naw** (170382) **8.00 Er Mwyn Tad** (1295) **8.30 Newyddion** (3030) **9.00 Frasier** (1030) **9.30 Friends** (16671) **10.00 Brookside** (66295) **10.30 Sgorio** (75943) **11.00 The American Football Big Match** (538295) **12.20am Porkpie** (7016710) **12.50-1.20 The Lovers** (6801623) **4.00 Ysgollon** (78642)

CHANNEL

6.35am Hammerman (r) (5241568)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (72759)

9.00 Bless This House (78030)

9.30 Schools: Geography Junction 9.45 Book Box 10.00 Stage Two Science 10.15 Learn Sign Language 10.20 Place and People 10.40 The English Programme 11.05 Encyclopedia Galactica 11.15 The Mix 11.30 Rat-A-Tat-Tat 11.45 Junior Technology (537363)

12.00 Right to Reply (r) (s) (65566)

12.30pm Backdate (Teletext) (s) (93837)

1.00 Sesame Street (r) (s) (81092)

2.00 Pêcheurs à Cheval (50579059)

2.15 FILM: Against the Wind (1947) starring Jack Warner and Simone Signoret. Melodrama about a mixed bag of people trained in London to be saboteurs in Nazi Germany. Directed by Charles Crichton (Teletext) (678856)

4.00 Fifteen to One (s) (160) **4.30 Countdown** (Teletext) (s) (672) **5.00 The Montel Williams Show** (Teletext) (s) (2426011) **5.45 Travelog Treks** (Teletext) (s) (435924)

6.00 The Cosby Show (Teletext) (s) (837)

6.30 Hollyoaks (Teletext) (s) (189)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (7189)

8.00 Little Killers: The Great Escape. Minks used to be known for their fur, now they are better known for the damage they are thought to cause to the countryside. This programme shows how mink were imported into British fur farms and escaped to become established animals in the local ecology. Are they as vicious and destructive as their reputation? (5/6) (1295)

8.30 CHOICE Brookside. The first of the five consecutive visits to the Close, focusing on the devastating developments in the affairs of the Farnhams (Ceefax) (3030)



Instructor Frank Norris (9.00pm)

9.00 SERIES Cutting Edge: The Test (Teletext) (9301)

10.00 Homicide — Life on the Street. Bayliss is the lead officer when Baltimore is under siege from a sniper who is playing a macabre game of Hangman with the city (Teletext) (s) (1/2) (9160)

11.00 The American Football Big Match presented by Gary Imlach (538295)

12.20am Gaelic Football Final: The Replay. Highlights of yesterday's match between Mayo and Meath (9206389)

1.20 Let the Blood Run Free. Slabb goes vampire-hunting while Warren proposes to Effie (6080517)

1.50 FILM: Moulin Rouge (1953) starring José Ferrer, Colette Marchand and Zsa Zsa Gabor. Fictionalised biography of the painter Toulouse-Lautrec. Directed by John Huston (Teletext) (54903642) Ends at 3.55

4.00 Schools: History in Action (14-19) (396449) Ends at 5.45

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am Undun (25547) **9.00** Press Your Luck (7522498) **9.30** Jeopardy! (8248189) **9.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (1558059) **10.40** Real TV (8028450) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (9807214) **12.00** Geraldo (25450) **1.00pm** 1 to 3 (92721) **3.00** Jenny Jones (498537) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (50672) **5.00** Quantum Leap (4924) **6.00** The New Adventures of Superman (21634) **7.00** LAPD (5653) **7.30** M*A*S*H (8479) **8.00** Sightings (71853) **9.00** Picket Fences (68189) **10.00** Quantum Leap (61276) **11.00** The New Adventures of Superman (38011) **12.00** The Fremantle Conspiracy (81710) **1.00am** LAPD (33772) **1.30** Real TV (80178) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (45081)

SKY 2

7.00pm The Simpsons (1093566) **7.30** Sea Rescue (6293837) **8.00** Water Rats (4783479) **9.00** V (4796943) **10.00** Under Suspicion (4798030) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (2634009) **12.00 FILM: Beyond the Valley of the Dolls** (2300246) **2.00am** Hit Mix Long Play (6398642)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (32924) **6.30** Bloomberg Business Report (1279856) **6.45** Sunrise Continues (52364634) **9.30** The Book Show (7853672) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (56612450) **2.30pm** Labour Conference (56363) **3.30** Labour Conference (16585) **5.00** Live at Five (32011) **6.30** Tonight, with Adam Boulton (64382) **7.30** Sportsline (298301) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (12719479) **11.30** CBS Evening News (39011) **12.30am** ABC World News Tonight (26488) **1.30** Tonight, with Adam Boulton Replay (7814710) **2.10** Court TV — War Crimes (63957369) **3.30** The Book Show (49265) **4.30** CBS Evening News (21772) **5.30** ABC World News Tonight (76791)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am One Spy Too Many (1966) (83818) **8.00 Pocahontas: The Legend** (1995) (21027) **10.00 The Cat and the Canary** (1978) (57059) **12.00 To Trap a Spy** (1966) (86160) **2.00pm Where the River Runs Black** (1986) (85856) **4.00 Two of a Kind** (1982) (9856) **6.00 Other Women's Children** (1993) (37479) **7.30 El Features** (3547) **8.00 Deadly Vows** (1994) (77837) **10.00 Death Machine** (1994) (925653) **11.55 Cabin Boy** (1994) (9115622) **1.15am King David** (1985) (253772) **3.10-6.00 Wrestling Ernest Hemingway** (1994) (35087623)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 The Son of Monte Cristo (1940) (30030) **2.00pm Beautiful But Dangerous** (1952) (567301) **3.45 James Dean: A Portrait** (1995) (208856) **4.45 Giant** (1956) (61203983) **8.00 East of Eden** (1955) (59479) **10.00 Rebel Without a Cause** (1955) (498059) **11.80 James Dean: A Portrait** (916189) **12.50am Marathon Man** (1976) (21368420) **2.55 Horror of Frankenstein** (1970) (718826) **4.35-5.50 Animal Farm** (1955) (9703159)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Gallavants (1988) (16201924) **7.40 My Little Pony: The Movie** (1986) (2462566) **9.10 Gabrielle and the Doodleman** (1984) (3568837) **10.10 Courage of Pin Tin Tin** (1962) (7739634) **11.25 Wild Stallion** (1952) (8149672) **12.35pm Sons and Lovers** (1960) (49619027) **2.20 Spencer's Mountain** (1963) (851127) **4.20 Gabrielle and the Doodleman** (1984) (5802030) **5.20 Red Planet** (1993) (5364856) **6.30 Shake, Rattle and Rock!** (1994) (11943) **8.00 Fast Company** (1995) (75479) **10.00 Quiz Show** (1994) (63863547) **12.15am Forbidden Choices** (1994) (944352) **2.00 Pummaro** (1994) (488517) **3.45-6.00 To Die For** (1994) (66887197)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Bonkers (1175108) **6.25** Mouse Tracks (1187943) **6.50** Darkwing Duck (3778740) **7.15** Quack Attack (7187112) **7.40** Aladdin (1104568) **8.05** Timon and Pumbaa (7918789) **8.30** Bonkers (13276) **9.00** Sing Me a Story, with Belle (37856) **9.30** Lamb Chops Play Along! (41547) **10.00** Muppet Babies (27568) **10.30** Adventures in Wonderland (26740) **11.00** Quack Attack (10092) **11.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (11721) **12.00** Fraggle Rock (17092) **12.30pm** Lamb Chops Play Along! (45363) **1.00** Timon and Pumbaa (67672) **1.30** Aladdin (44634) **2.00** Darkwing Duck (5837) **2.30** Groundling Marsh (4214) **3.00** Quack Attack (7713092) **3.25** Mouse Tracks (7732127) **3.50** Darkwing Duck (2863479) **4.15** Bonkers (8437106) **4.35** Timon and Pumbaa (2902276) **5.00** Aladdin (6189) **5.30** Good Morning Miss Bliss (8030) **6.00** Crossbow (5943) **6.30** Blossom (62951) **7.00** Home Improvement (9653) **7.30 FILM: Dusty** (29856) **9.00** Blossom (30856) **9.30-10.00** Home Improvement (65127)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Half-Marathon (28276) **9.00** Football (35189) **11.00** Boxing (88030) **12.00** Motorsports (28672) **1.00pm** Triathlon (99932) **2.00** Pelanque (14382) **4.00** Darts (96866) **5.00** Football (2108) **6.00** Tractor Pulling (24856) **7.00** Speedworld (70011) **9.00** Truck Racing (15011) **10.00** Football (25498) **11.00** Eurogolf Magazine (76295) **12.00-12.30** All Sports (15604)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Gillette World Sport Special (72479) **7.30** Watersports World (46672) **8.30** Racing News (82382) **9.00** Drag Racing (73634) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (10653) **10.00** Show Jumping: Nations Cup (49419) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (93498) **12.30pm** Football Special (19030) **2.30** Tennis - KB Fed Cup Final (89027) **3.30** European Golf: Smurfit European Open (47301) **5.29** Sky Sports Centre (1555853) **5.30** World of Speed and Beauty (4818) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (4059) **6.30** Tartan Extra (8011) **7.00** Ford Monday Night Football: Newcastle v Aston Villa — Live (60972295) **10.15** Sky Sports Centre (5610611) **10.45** Tartan Extra (497932) **11.15** This Week in Baseball (647455) **11.45** Ford Monday Night Football (467092) **1.45am-2.15** Sky Sports Centre (563468)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 World Windsurfing Tour (21054214) **12.30pm** Rebel Sports (77971479) **1.00** Golf USA (77969634) **2.00** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (68172108) **2.30** Drag Racing (16441498) **3.00** Finish Line (68184943) **3.30** Football League Review (24011450) **6.00** World Windsurfing Tour (16442127) **6.30** Rebel Sports (16433479) **7.00** Sports Centre (68176924) **7.30** World Motor Sport (41157837) **9.30** Tennis: Federation Cup (70474030) **11.30-12.00** Sports Centre (72708517)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Thought for the Day **4.05** Worship **4.15** Kidz TV **4.30** Walter Hallam: Voice of Faith **5.00** Voice of Victory **5.30** Christian Music TV **5.45** General Christian Entertainment **6.15** Ulf Ekman. Word of Life **6.45-7.00** Good Morning Europe

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (6610637) **7.55** As the World Turns (9124943) **8.50** Peyton Place (6820127) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (2939369) **10.10-11.00** Another World

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (6305924) **11.30** American Vacation (3911653) **12.30pm** Spice of Life (7756092) **1.00** Getaway (4826818) **1.30** Great Escapes (7755363) **2.00** Trailside — Make Your Own Adventure (5278108) **2.30** Discover Your World (6120856) **3.00** Globetrotter (5280943) **3.30-4.00** Around the World (6125301)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography (6396276) **5.00** Modern Marvels (5271295) **6.00** The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten (7764011) **7.00-8.00** Biography (8503653)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from **8pm-4am** Monday-Wednesday and **1am-4am** Thursday-Sunday on satellite, and from **8am-4am** every day on cable

8.00pm Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories (5281672) **8.30** Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories (5277479) **9.00** The Outer Limits (8509837) **10.00** Secrets of the Paranormal (2429788) **10.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (2404189) **11.00** Friday the 13th (4838295) **12.00** The Incredible Hulk (3570823) **1.00am** Tales of the Unexpected (6132284) **1.30** New Alfred Hitchcock (9539791) **2.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (3133062) **2.30** Night Gallery (3152197) **3.00** Friday the 13th (6091449) **3.55-4.00** Quarks (16268536)

Elizabeth Taylor stars in *Giant* (Sky Movies Gold, 4.45pm)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (4311856) **9.30** The Garden Show (5226108) **10.00** Two's Country (2648382) **10.30** Home Again, with Bob Vila (4300740) **11.00** Furniture to Go (4494030) **11.30** Room Service (4402059) **12.00** Julia Child (4391092) **12.30pm** The Frugal Gourmet (5220824) **1.00** Simply Delicious in France and Italy (4337856) **1.30** This Old House (5229295) **2.00** This Old House (4024837) **2.30** Garden Club (2272856) **3.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (4036672) **3.30-4.00** This Old House, with Steve and Norm (2277301)

UK GOLD

7.00am Lassie (4330843) **7.30** Give Us A Clue (4319450) **8.00** Neighbours (2385769) **8.25** EastEnders (2589924) **9.00** The Bill (4313214) **9.30** The Sullivans (5226566) **10.00** Growing Pains (4315634) **11.00** Bullseye (4463160) **11.30** Sale of the Century (4471189) **12.00** Tellystack (4389450) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5222382) **1.00** EastEnders (8841295) **1.35** I Didn't Know You Cared (8788276) **2.15** Man About the House (6258030) **2.50** Dear John (8474479) **3.30** The Bill (2286059) **4.00** Casualty (4487740) **5.00** Bullseye (4017547) **5.30** George and Mildred (2278030) **6.00** Tellystack (2275943) **6.30** EastEnders (3508856) **7.05** Odd One Out (3156363) **7.50** The Les Dawson Show (3835498) **8.30 FILM: Magnum the Movie: LA** (33752585) **10.15** The Bill (9890585) **10.50** Ripping Yarns (5654740) **11.30** Capital City (4913295) **12.30am FILM: A Dangerous Profession** (47608772) **1.50** Shopping at Night (21496807)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (1180030) **6.20** Meltdown (1168818) **6.45** Degrassi Junior High (429092) **7.15** Ready or Not (436905) **7.45** California Dreams (425276) **8.15** Sweet Valley High (963011) **8.45** Art Attack (4303092) **9.00** Tiny and Crew (1946160) **10.20** The Clangers (3787740) **10.25** Christopher Crocodile (8462924) **11.00** Dinobabies (23586) **11.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (24295) **12.00** Barney (20566) **12.30pm** Oscar's Orchestra (58837) **1.00** Casper and Friends (47818) **1.30** Tiny and Crew (92439011) **1.45** Teddy Trucks (57549856) **1.55** Mr Benn (57939214) **2.15** Babaloos (55714180) **2.20** Towser (55735653) **2.30** Christopher Crocodile (44400011) **2.40** Bertha (5320450) **3.00** Degrassi Junior High (7818) **3.30** Ready or Not (9905) **4.00** California Dreams (1740) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (7924)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (79740) **6.30** Bikar Mice from Mars (31634) **7.00** Rocko's Modern Life (637221) **7.30** Rugrats (82656) **8.00** Doug (81653) **8.30** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (80924) **9.00** Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego (71278) **9.30** Wishbone (18265) **10.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (3528924) **10.10** Kate and Orbie (42002955) **10.35** Mr Men (64370980) **10.40** Wil Quack Quack (64349843) **10.45** Bananas in Pyjamas (3686295) **11.00** BBC Pursuit (41564189) **12.50** Gabrielle (79930821) **1.40** Rolonda (42300009) **2.30** The Agony Experience (25013382) **3.00** Live at Three (98646344) **4.00** Who's Sorry Now? (25826644) **4.30** Talkabout (47580011) **5.05** Lingo (66038721) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (25124698) **6.00** Bewitched (25020111) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (6083653) **7.05** Brookside (30218856) **7.35** Super Fresco Fabulosious (58783363) **7.40** Trivial Pursuit (24250569) **8.00** Street Legal (35292776) **9.00 FILM: Prescription for Murder** (11544450) **10.40** Entertainment Now! (40135585) **11.00-12.00** The Erogenous Zone (80870569)

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (4281498) **7.00** Esther (8061011) **7.30** The Young and the Restless (2855721) **8.20** A Taste of Wales (14178718) **8.55** Infatuation UK (83310930) **9.35** Call the Doctor (2331856) **10.00** Super Fresco Fabulosious (8279127) **10.05** The Jerry Springer Show (13061277) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7712160) **11.55** Brookside (48406214) **12.25pm** Trivial Pursuit (41564189) **12.50** Gabrielle (79930821) **1.40** Rolonda (42300009) **2.30** The Agony Experience (25013382) **3.00** Live at Three (98646344) **4.00** Who's Sorry Now? (25826644) **4.30** Talkabout (47580011) **5.05** Lingo (66038721) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (25124698) **6.00** Bewitched (25020111) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (6083653) **7.05** Brookside (30218856) **7.35** Super Fresco Fabulosious (58783363) **7.40** Trivial Pursuit (24250569) **8.00** Street Legal (35292776) **9.00 FILM: Prescription for Murder** (11544450) **10.40** Entertainment Now! (40135585) **11.00-12.00** The Erogenous Zone (80870569)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Queen of the Elephants (4485382) **5.00** Time Travellers (40151889) **5.30** Jurassica (22766772) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (5239943) **7.00** The Elusive Bengal Tiger (40298553) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (2253721) **8.



UNION DUES 46

Philip Bassett looks at funding new Labour

BUSINESS

HAUNTED 43

Past errors beset Brian McGowan's House of Fraser



MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Watchdog would welcome Scottish sale by British Gas

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE Gas Consumers Council yesterday welcomed the prospect of British Gas selling its gas supply business in Scotland and the north of England to Scottish Hydro-Electric. Discussions on the sale, which neither company publicly admits, signal another radical step in the proposed break-up of British Gas.

Ian Powe, director of the Gas Consumers Council, said that a sale would be a "win-win" deal for consumers and the two companies. He said that consumers in Scotland and northern England should benefit from reduced gas prices; Scottish Hydro would substantially expand its gas interests; and British Gas would have a chance to escape many of its hugely loss-making "take or pay" supply contracts with BP, Shell and other oil companies.

Renegotiation of these contracts, reducing the amount British Gas has to pay the oil companies, is likely to be a key part of any sale agreement.

Mr Powe said that many of British Gas's big industrial customers are in Scotland and the North. Offloading this business would allow British Gas to escape from many of its heaviest loss-making contracts.

Assuming that Scottish Hydro would not take on the business encumbered by similar difficulties, it would be able to reduce the price of gas for domestic users ahead of the national introduction of competition in 1998.

Carolyn McAdam, a Scottish Hydro spokeswoman, said that the company already has "a huge amount of contact" with British Gas. The two companies are 50-50 joint venture partners in Seabank Power, a £300 million scheme to build a 755-megawatt gas-fired power station near Bristol. Scottish Hydro also talks regularly to British Gas over its own, much smaller, "take or pay" problem.

Scottish Hydro managers went into its Perth offices yesterday to prepare briefings for staff on the possibility of a gas deal.

British Gas has only one more week to decide whether to ask the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to investigate the demanding price controls being sought by Ofgas, the industry regulator. The Ofgas proposals for TransCo, the group's pipeline business, will slice £650 million from the company's revenues. Although Ofgas has relaxed slightly the controls that it proposed, British Gas remains deeply unhappy with the pricing formula. It is expected to seek an MMC inquiry.

A sale of the gas supply business in Scotland and northern England would complicate the issues that the MMC would need to consider.

Clarke's gold scheme wins IMF support

FROM ANATOLE KALETSKY IN WASHINGTON

THE International Monetary Fund's ruling Interim Committee decided yesterday to go ahead with two major initiatives to ease the debt burdens on the poorest developing countries.

The debt plan was first proposed by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, at the Commonwealth finance ministers' meeting in Malta two years ago. It will eventually provide about $6 billion worth of help to some 20 developing countries, which have begun successful economic reform programmes but are saddled with very large debts to official creditors such as the IMF and World Bank.

A related agreement will allow the "Paris Club", which represents the export credit agencies of the main industrialised countires, to write off up to 80 per cent of the debts owed by countries which qualify for the IMF plan for debt relief.

As expected, the agreement on the debt plan was marred by a row between Germany and the other leading countries over whether the cost of the debt initiative could be funded partly by selling a small proportion of the IMF's gold and reinvesting the proceeds in interest-bearing securities. Germany has expressed concern that the sale of IMF gold may inspire pressures for the Bundesbank to sell some of its gold hoard after European monetary union.

Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, insisted over the weekend that Germany had not agreed to the sale of any IMF gold and would not agree to it in the foreseeable future. But Robert Rubin, the US Treasury Secretary, said that America expected the IMF to sell up to five million ounces of gold, worth about $2 billion, to finance the plan.

Questioned about Germany's unyielding opposition to gold sales, US officials said they understood the German position, but Germany did not have the 15 per cent support on the IMF board it would need to veto the gold sales. If necessary Germany would be outvoted. In spite of the disagreement over gold, the Interim Committee decided to make a firm commitment to go ahead with the Clarke plan, leaving the details of financing to be resolved later. Mr Clarke said he expected funds to start flowing to the first beneficiaries by the end of this year. The first country to benefit is expected to be Uganda.



Rubin: expects gold sale

Another theme that dominated informal discussions around the IMF meetings was the growing likelihood that European monetary union would go ahead on schedule in 1999 — and the possibility that it might include a larger group than previously expected. This speculation was inspired mainly by the huge budget cutting programmes announced on Friday by the governments of Italy and Spain. In Italy's case, the fiscal squeeze would be equivalent, on official estimates, to almost 4 per cent of gross domestic product — roughly three times as tough as the measures taken by Britain in 1994-95.

There was widespread scepticism in Washington about the ability of Romano Prodi, Italy's Prime Minister, to push such a painful package through his parliament. But the main doubts related to Italy's eligibility for EMU even if it implemented the cuts. If Italy is included from the start, monetary union will be much harder to sell to the generally hostile German public. As a result, Germany, France and the other core countries could find reasons to exclude Italy even if it satisfies the annual deficit requirement.



Better late than never: Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, is escorted to a photocall, having kept his fellow European Union finance ministers waiting

Headhunters to recruit each other

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE worldwide recruitment industry is primed for a wave of mergers and takeovers resulting in a handful of key players, shadowing similar moves in law, accountancy, and advertising, says a leading headhunter.

Stephen Rowlinson, chief executive designate of MSL, the recruitment advertising and headhunting firm, expects moves to accelerate in the next few years, as founder-directors step back and retire.

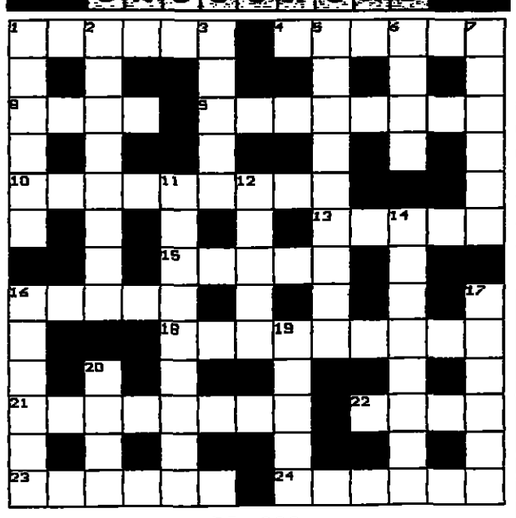
Mr Rowlinson, 56, who in the 1980s ran the UK offices of Korn-Ferry International, the world's biggest headhunting firm, expects the recruitment industry to become dominated by half a dozen firms, in the same way that firms such as Arthur Andersen and Price Waterhouse have come to dominate the accountancy profession. He said: "The vast majority of these things are still founder-driven. I predict the emergence of some very large groups that will get the industry into a different generation."

Merton Associates, Mr Rowlinson's own headhunting firm, has merged with MSL, which is coming to the Alternative Investment Market through a placing that values the company at £7.5 million. Dealings are expected to commence next month. Garry Long, chairman, bought the firm out from the former Saatchi & Saatchi advertising group in 1992.

Mr Rowlinson hopes to use MSL as a platform on which to build an enlarged search and recruitment group. He said: "MSL is an absolutely tailor-made core company to create a large — and what will be a highly-profitable — company in that sector. We have one of the few brand names everyone's heard of. The intention is to take MSL from its present position to a position of market leadership."

Competitors include Robert Walters and Michael Page. MSL employs 200 people and has ten UK offices. Abbey National, BP and the Bank of England are among the firm's clients.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 900

ACROSS

1 Open to all (6)
4 In words (6)
8 Those manning eg ship (4)
9 The exact phrase (3,5)
10 Wife of US president (5,4)
13 A preserved Egyptian (5)
15 Worship (5)
16 Defeated at chess (5)
18 Peevish (9)
21 Very great, very good (8)
22 Team of workers, ruffians (4)
23 Well-argued (6)
24 Refuse to agree (to) (6)

DOWN

1 Calm (one) down (6)
2 Juicy red salad veg. (8)
3 Humpy animal (5)
5 Delight; exercise of right (9)
6 Play music for coins (4)
7 Room for manoeuvre (6)
11 A custom (9)
12 Secret love affair (5)
14 Sheet of tissue (8)
16 One intuiting the divine (6)
17 Importance, gravity (6)
19 Become liable for (5)
20 An amphibian; decorative braid (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 899

ACROSS: 1 Done to a turn 7 Japan 8 Auditor 10 Skylight 11 Lava 13 Insult 15 Marley 17 Epic 18 Colorado 21 Outcome 22 Abate 23 Deerstalker

DOWN: 1 Do justice to 2 Nippy 3 Tangible 4 Agatha 5 Undo 6 Netball 9 Ready-to-wear 12 Panorama 14 Stilted 16 Covets 19 Aback 20 Pope

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Unions have sent £100m Labour's way since 1979

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TRADE UNIONS have spent well in excess of £100 million at 1995 prices in funding the Labour Party in the years since it has been out of office, a study by The Times shows today.

The study suggests that the trade unions' share of Labour's income is likely to fall close to 40 per cent next year — half its level when Labour was last in power.

The Times's computer analysis shows that, at national level, the unions have contributed to Labour a total of £86 million, or more than £111 million at 1995 prices. However, this support is now only about 1 per cent of their total spending.

The unions' funding includes £60 million to Labour's general funds, and £26 million to the party's general election spending. Union spending at national level in the last general election campaign amounted to £4.98 million, excluding local help, such as the provision of cars and offices.

In addition, the unions contribute locally to constituencies in what used to be the sponsorship system for MPs, though party leaders are unable to put a precise figure on the unions' relatively low contributions at this level.

Labour managers are concentrating on the 90 constituencies that need a swing of 6 per cent or less to change to Labour and which have been designated by the party leadership as key seats, and have persuaded the unions to contribute particularly to general election campaign resources in all but a couple of these constituencies.

The union share of Labour's income is falling, and is down from 80 per cent in 1980, the first full year after Labour left office, to 47 per cent now, according to the financial report to be presented to the annual Labour conference, which opens today in Blackpool.

Labour leaders believe that, with donations from prominent business figures continuing, the union proportion of Labour's income will fall further. The party expects to announce more business support at its conference this week and in the run-up to the general election.

Party leaders recognise that the unions now get their affiliation to Labour "on the cheap", as one official put it yesterday, and the party is now to make a comparative study of union financing of political activity in countries such as Germany and the US to obtain a broader perspective on union funding.

Ties that bind, page 46

IN BUSINESS TOMORROW



ANATOLE KALETSKY investigates a currency surprise that defies history

Eurotunnel banks set up key meeting

A crucial meeting of Eurotunnel's 26 biggest and most influential bank lenders this week could seal the fate of the debt-laden Channel operator.

The meeting, set for Friday, will be the first since the two mediators appointed by the French courts to arbitrate between Eurotunnel and its banks, retired from the fray.

The mandate for Lord Wakeham and Robert Badinter's intervention ends today, leaving Eurotunnel's management on its own to settle details of the £9 billion refinancing.

Friday's meeting will consider the latest proposals, thought to include a 49 per cent debt-for-equity swap and exchanging £2 billion of debt for convertible securities. A Eurotunnel source said: "We are all working on the assumption that a deal will be done."

Goldcrest case

The Serious Fraud Office case against Donald Anderson, former finance director of Goldcrest, a subsidiary of Brent Walker Group, is expected to begin today at Southwark Crown Court in London. Mr Anderson, 43, a New Zealand citizen, denies attempting to pervert the course of justice. He was charged by the SFO in November last year, following his return to the UK.

Firms failing

British business failures are still running at the rate of about 750 a week, well into the fifth year of recovery from recession. Figures from Dun & Bradstreet, the business information service, show that failures in the first nine months of this year were 30,414, a fall of only 2.9 per cent on the same period in 1995.

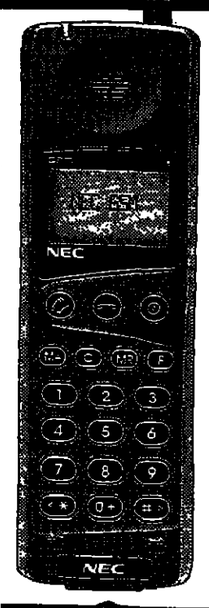
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